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CONTENTS

Political Indoctrination: Activities in Troop Units (KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, Aug, Oct 80).....	1
During Field Training, by Ye. Gryaznov Follow-Up Report At the Company Level, by K. Pogochev	
Helicopter Unit Activities in Afghanistan Described (A. Khorobryy; KRYL'YA RODINY, Sep 80).....	17
Need To Continue Detente in 1980's Stressed (O. Bykov; MIROVAYA EKONOMIKA I MEZHDUNARODNYYE OTNOSHENIYA, Oct 80).....	22
DOSAAF: Training and Related Activities (SOVETSKIY PATRIOT, various dates).....	38
In the Belorussian SSR, by P. Maksimov In the Uzbek SSR, by V. Pustovalov In the Kazakh SSR	
DOSAAF: Construction of Training Facilities Lags (V. Vlasov; SOVETSKIY PATRIOT, 12 Nov 80).....	46
Naval Forces: Training and Related Activities (SOVETSKIY VOIN, various dates).....	48
On the 'Rativyy', by V. Chepiga, I. Kurashov Submarine Rescue ASW on the 'Druzhnyy', by S. Cheypesh	
Combat Traditions: Marshal Batitskiy Interviewed (P. F. Batitskiy Interview; VOYENNYE ZNANIYA, 8 Sep 80).....	56
NATO: Soviet Comments on New Weaponry (V. Makarevskiy; VOYENNYE ZNANIYA, Oct 80).....	61

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POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION: ACTIVITIES IN TROOP UNITS

During Field Training

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 15, Aug 80 signed to press 18 Jul 80 pp 45-50

[Article by Lt Col Ye. Gryaznov: "Communists Set the Tone at Exercises"]

[Text] The forest was quiet. And in the stillness of the night one could hear the gentle breeze nudging dewdrops off the birches, standing like white candles among the dark firs and pines, and the strained but delicate drone of the hordes of mosquitoes--these restless inhabitants of the surrounding marshes.

It seemed uninhabited, this forest so mysterious in the dark. But suddenly it was awakened from its silence by human voices; commands and reports rang out, and engines began to roar. Litter beneath the tracks of the prime movers began to crackle. As if popping up from the ground, the vehicles emerged upon the forest roads with their lights off, and after a brief halt they disappeared once again among the trees.

Somewhere in the distance one could discern the broad reaches of the training ground, beyond which the "enemy" had hidden himself. The mission of the gunners in Colonel A. Udotov's unit was to advance covertly to the fire line and suppress the strong-points of the opposing side.

Covertly--that meant no light at all, that meant complete reliance upon night vision instruments, that meant a minimum field of view. Nevertheless the guns reached their appointed area on schedule.

The summer night is short, and so there is little time for the soldiers to talk things over. There was much that had to be done: digging emplacements for the vehicles after the march, camouflaging them, and making preparations for fire.

Everything was done, in time. Neither tiredness nor the annoying mosquitoes, forcing their way behind collars and into boots, nor the absence of lights--nothing kept the gunners from completing their mission--one of many in this tactical exercise. And so brilliantly, too!

"We're now with Captain Vanyushkin's battery," unit political worker Lieutenant Colonel E. Yakovlev told me when the vehicle stopped in the forest. "And here, by the way, is the battery commander."

"But where are the guns?"

"Here," the officer swung his arm with a smile, pointing nowhere in particular.

Yes, the soldiers had camouflaged themselves meticulously. We were persuaded of this on visiting the other subunits as well.

Eduard Aleksandrovich Yakovlev and I drove many miles together in all of the days and nights of the tactical field firing exercise.

Wherever we went, people labored conscientiously, and no one complained of being tired. And the fire of competition burned everywhere. The people of the battalions, batteries, and squads competed among each other.

"This turned out to be a special year. The Lenin Jubilee and the 35th anniversary of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War have stirred the people," Eduard Aleksandrovich said. "We are trying to place the experience we have accumulated in organizing competition into action during our preparations for the 26th CPSU Congress."

Little scarlet stars were carefully painted on some of the gun barrels. "That's the number of outstanding firing exercises," the political worker explained. "The fight for these little stars is also going on here, during this exercise. Here, by the way, are the first winners," the officer pointed to a banner suspended above the displays of one of the battery's traveling Lenin rooms.

Invariably, combat training standards are posted next to the lists of the competitors in each battery. There is good reason for this, the political worker noted.

"What do we see sometimes?" he asked. "There's a lot of noise about the competition, but no one has the foggiest what the standards are. Learn the standards themselves first, and then think about competing on them."

This recalled a conversation I overheard in another unit. The discussion turned to how well the competition was organized during the march, and the officer shrugged his shoulders in response:

"How can you organize it, this competition, if the crews are always working?"

Speaking without thinking, he failed to realize that competition is not an end in itself, that it is the means by which the work itself is done, that the subunit's success in combat is the product of precious seconds gained on the standards.

Everyone saw in the exercise how deeply interested the commander, the political worker, and the active party members were in competition. Colonel A. Udotov frequently looked at his stopwatch to see if the times fell within the standards.

"Good lads," he delighted in the actions of one of the squads. "Eduard Aleksandrovich, check them out. Find out what they did to shave off so much time. I think everyone should know how they did it."

And so Lieutenant Colonel E. Yakovlev talked with the people, and he discussed party-political work with the battalion deputy commander for political affairs. And of course, he spent extra time with those who managed to get their jobs done faster.

After this, battle leaflets and combat bulletins describing the best soldiers and the roots of their successes appeared in all of the batteries. Naturally, Eduard Aleksandrovich did not work alone. Gradually and competently, he explained to the political workers and party organization secretary what had to be done at the given moment, and what the people had to attend to. One could sense that his style of work was to teach the individual, to encourage his creativity, to support him at a difficult moment.

Of course, much had been done before the exercise.

What would be the best way to complete the missions of the exercise? This was the topic of discussion at party meetings held on the eve of the forthcoming trials of combat maturity at the administrative headquarters and in the subunits.

The unit commander, the chief of staff, the political workers, and the subunit commanders gave reports at the meetings. They gave the right direction to the discussion, setting an efficient tone.

"The field is both a competent teacher and a strict examiner. And even if this 'field' is in the forest, every soldier is highly visible," battalion commander Major V. Sokolov said to his comrades. "It is difficult to predict what will happen. But one thing is clear: The people must be tuned to the forthcoming tasks, their knowledge must be complete, and their readiness to surmount difficulties must be constant. And now, communists, let's think about what we could do before moving out, about how we will work during the exercise."

"What could we possibly have time to do with young soldiers that have just joined the army?" Captain V. Biryukov expressed his doubts.

"There will be plenty of time for everything," Colonel A. Udotov took the floor. "Just set your mind free, and do what you have to do. And this pertains especially to you, Comrade Biryukov. You took a winning place in the district gunnery competition. So now share your experience with your comrades."

The commander's suggestions were supported. The communists also voted in favor of generalizing the experience of driver-mechanic 1st class privates V. Yudin and S. Markov. It was decided at the meeting which of the party members would help these soldiers prepare their reports to their fellow servicemen. Lieutenant V. Ponomarev's idea of holding technical and gunnery conferences was approved. There was also talk of getting communists to participate more actively in organization of reviews and competitions for best crew, and for the right to be called best gunner, loader, and ammunition number.

"Competition is useful," confirmed battalion deputy commander for political affairs Senior Lieutenant L. Baraksa. "But what do we sometimes see? Everything is done to get the competition off the ground, but no one thinks about publicizing the experience of the victor."

Once during a meeting the communists suggested a new initiative, "An outstanding grade with a skeleton crew!", which was subsequently supported by all soldiers. What was the result? Attention toward interchangeability in the crews was intensified. And the ability of the soldiers to perform the responsibilities of their fellow workers not only promoted smoother action of the crews, but subsequently in the exercises, it was also a dependable guarantee of successful completion of all missions with a skeleton crew.

This meeting ended with a discussion on the mobilizing role of the party organization and every communist. Party members and candidates were obligated to fight persistently against laxity and simplification in combat training, and to help the commanders organize competition on the tasks and standards.

Getting a little ahead of myself, let me say that everything planned at the meeting was completed.

At seminars and briefings held for active party and Komsomol members, the political workers thoroughly discussed the most flexible and effective forms and methods of continuous political influence upon the soldiers in the preparatory period and in the course of the exercise; they also discussed individual work with the people.

The discussion was centered on how best to explain the mission to the soldiers, how to mobilize them for courageous, competent action and initiative, and how to make the most effective use of technical propaganda resources--movies, radio, and tape recorders.

An increase in personal responsibility for outstanding performance in the exercise missions was promoted in many ways by discussion of reports given by communists in meetings of the party bureau, and of reports given by subunit political workers at conferences.

Thus a report by Captain V. Biryukov on his contribution to exercise preparations and his participation in party work was heard at one of the meetings of the party bureau. The communists turned their attention to the fact that by concentrating all of his attention on the solo training of the soldiers, the officer forgot about unifying the battery collective. Viktor Stepanovich made the proper conclusions from what he heard.

The communists took the trouble to see that all privates, sergeants, warrant officers, and officers deeply assimilated the missions posed by the commander and correctly determined their socialist pledges, ones accounting for the need for reducing equipment readiness time and surpassing other standards in combat work.

In a word, much was done. Consequently, at the eve of the exercise the unit resembled a tightly coiled spring. The signal sounded, and the spring launched the entire intricate mechanism of the combat collective into action.

Party influence upon the collective intensified even more.

At dawn, while the senior officers were reconnoitering the terrain and working out the last-minute details on the maps, the gun crews found themselves with time on their hands. Without waiting for instructions, the active party and Komsomol members tried to use this time wisely.

Everyone found something to do. Political talks were held right at the guns. The speakers carried the latest editions of the newspapers. The mail arrived the day before, and many soldiers received letters from home.

"How are your relatives? What successes have they enjoyed?" Communist Private S. Mosal'skiy, secretary of the Komsomol organization, asked Private A. Krylov.

All eyes were upon the young soldier. He carefully unfolded the letter and began relating what his mother had written. She wrote about the recent successes of "Rassvet" Kolkhoz, Kalininskaya Oblast, and about the fact that there were now more shock workers of the five-year plan at the farm. She wrote about the duty of the soldiers to religiously preserve their native land and to multiply the glory of the war veterans by their military labor.

"The appeal of Krylov's mother is an appeal to us by all mothers," the Komsomol activist noted. "And that is why we hold this plea close to our hearts."

Junior Sergeant V. Filippov, a platoon Komsomol group organizer, talked with soldiers of one of the crews. He said:

"During an exercise, when there are more difficulties and everyone has numerous concerns, we especially want to measure up to our best comrades, those who competently carry their burdens and manage with the mountains of work. Private Sergey Markov is a natural example to all in this regard. This Komsomol member fulfills his responsibility perfectly, and he actively helps his comrade, Private Oleg Lanzot. For example he noted an oil leak in the engine, came up to him, and told him what to do right on the spot: Tighten the nozzle down a little. Had he not said anything, you can imagine what might have happened while on the march!"

The soldiers joined the discussion. They talked about mutual assistance of comrades in an exercise.

While the discussions went on, battle leaflets, flash reports, and photo bulletins appeared on the displays of the traveling Lenin rooms. As far as the photographs are concerned, they were the product of the diligent effort of Communist Senior Lieutenant A. Bereznyuk and Komsomol member Private S. Skogarev. Bereznyuk is the unit Komsomol leader. He also had to perform the responsibilities of club chief during the exercise. And we would have to say that he was able to manage with everything. The club vehicle was everywhere, first in one battery and then in another. And its every arrival in the subunit was a joy to the gunners. While handing out the latest mail, Bereznyuk informed the soldiers of the evolved situation in the exercise area and about the crews that had distinguished themselves, and he collected information for subsequent radio newspaper issues; meanwhile Private S. Skogarev photographed the best soldiers and asked the gunners what they needed.

Nor did the driver of the club vehicle, Komsomol member Private L. Oleshchuk sit around idly. He is an agitator, and he is a good specialist. As the need arises, he helps drivers adjust their engines, and he offers good advice to young soldiers. Our road crossed the route of the club vehicle many times.

"Where to now?" Lieutenant Colonel E. Yakovlev once asked Bereznyuk.

"To Battery No 1," the officer answered. "We need to prepare statements by two sergeants for the radio newspaper--Aleksandr Zhuravel' and Sergey Ignatenko. These top-class specialists are members of the Komsomol bureau, and they will be a good example to others."

"Well now, that sounds good," the political worker noted.

Later, after our vehicle disappeared down the bumpy road into the forest, Eduard Aleksandrovich said to me:

"A good man, that Bereznyuk. He acted on my recommendations. Before this exercise I encouraged the political workers and all active members to display initiative, to act in accordance with the evolved situation without waiting for orders."

After a moment of silence he added:

"The artillery batteries are dispersed in the forest. In a frontline situation, will I always have time to visit all of the emplacements? No. But the party-political work must go on constantly. This is why it is so important for me to teach my assistants to act independently, to encourage the initiative of the active party members and political workers of the subunits."

Yes, during exercises one's thoughts turn in a special way to the war experience. I'm sure it's by association. Senior Lieutenant A. Yakovlev, the father of the unit's political worker, had commanded an antitank battery during the past war. And Senior Sergeant P. Bereznyuk, Senior Lieutenant Bereznyuk's father, served as a gun commander.

That was another era, and the equipment was different. Naturally, it would have been incorrect to mechanically copy the tactics of the frontline commanders. But there are certain things that can be borrowed from them. And the main thing is to use this experience to nurture today's generation of soldiers, to nurture them with the examples of the bravery, heroism, and steadfastness of the motherland's defenders on the battlefields. It is also important to glean from the frontliners all of the best that they have accumulated in work with people.

And I believe that those in the artillery unit who invited veterans to visit them on the eve of the exercise did the right thing. None of the soldiers could remain indifferent to the stories of veterans that had served in the regiment--their stories of how the people marched toward victory in '45, surmounting all difficulties. And later, during the exercise, I was able to hear the agitators making reference to the experience of the visiting war veterans while holding discussions with the soldiers.

Excerpts from decisions adopted at party and Komsomol meetings during the war and from appeals by artillery heroes of past engagements to the young soldiers were posted on the displays of the traveling Lenin rooms.

The battle leaflets and wall newspapers encouraged all to measure up to the deeds of the senior generation. The frontliners stood invisibly side by side with the soldiers, both during the night march and at the moment when the command to open fire was given, when the soldiers crossed "contaminated" terrain in their protective clothing, and later while they were putting out fires and repelling an attack by an "enemy" airborne party dropped in our rear by helicopter.

Talking about the party and Komsomol active members relating the war experience to the soldiers, I need to make one thing clear. One war veteran took a most direct part in the exercise. This was Communist Colonel Ye. Dabolin, a district staff officer. He joined the Communist Party in fiery '43. He commanded an artillery battery during the war. He may be a staff officer now, but he knows the sights and sounds of battle. And he did much to make the exercise resemble real combat, to make its conditions as close to those of real combat as possible. We must admit that on occasion, rather than creating a complex, instructive situation and in order to insure their own success, some executives interfere in the actions of their subordinates, assuming control of the subunits themselves. Moreover this control sometimes boils down to straightening out the battle lines or reducing the rate of advance. They take no advantage of maneuver at all.

Colonel Ye. Dabolin acted differently. He encouraged the cunning and resourcefulness of the gunners and their application of their own, interesting methods for completing the missions, he stirred his subordinates on to seize the initiative, and he taught them to decisively impose their will upon the "enemy" and to anticipate him in deploying and in opening fire. He taught actions based on accurate consideration of one's own power and the "enemy's" power.

But, back to the story.

The moon floated out over the training range like a sickle and, illuminating the islets of trees and a certain vehicle that was stuck in front of the observation point, it disappeared once again behind the clouds. "Do you see that vehicle?" Colonel Dabolin turned to me.

"I see it."

"That's the command post of the battalion that used to be commanded by Major Sokolov."

"Why 'used to be'?" I asked.

"Because Sokolov was killed according to the scenario. The battalion staff is gone as well. Battery commander Captain Biryukov is now handling Sokolov's responsibilities."

This would be a good place to mention that for day field firing, we positioned ourselves right with the batteries. We concealed our vehicle at the position of a gun battery, in some birches not far from the guns. This was a mistake. When the battery broke its silence, the concussion cracked the vehicle's windshield.

This time, for the night firing, we decided to remain at the observation post. "Maybe we won't lose the rest of the glass this way," I joked. In fact, however, the reason for our move lay in something else--the simulated battle could be seen as a whole from the observation post.

The discussion turned once again to Colonel Dabolin at the observation post. I had been told once before that he is exacting to excess. He allows no simplifications by anyone. But all of the officers displayed warmth and respect for him. Why? For many reasons.

"There are many roads to the training range," one officer told me. "And only one of them is paved. Yevgeniy Krysh'yanovich is the kind of person who would never travel the paved road. He is always with us. At night while we're marching, and during the day beside the guns."

"Could it be that he does not trust his middle-level executives?"

"He trusts them, alright. He has other reasons. He not only asks the officers to discuss the war experience, but he also teaches it himself. He often stays with the privates and sergeants. And you can imagine the charge of energy they receive from such discussions!"

The party instructs executive personnel to communicate with the masses regularly and directly. It emphasizes that every communist is obligated to be a propagandist, a bearer of the ideas of the party, irrespective of position and rank. This was discussed in particular in the CPSU Central Committee decree on ideological work.

It is with this in mind that Colonel Ye. Dabolin acts. Hearing his words to the soldiers, pithy words reinforced by interesting examples and substantiated by instructive thoughts, the soldiers become spiritually enriched, and they gain a clearer impression of their place in the ranks.

But let us return to the exercise. At the moment when we were at the observation post, one thought was shared by all: how communist Captain V. Biryukov would handle his new responsibilities. Naturally, Major V. Sokolov, who according to the scenario was dead, was concerned more than the rest, but he stood firm, keeping his agitation to himself.

We could barely distinguish the outlines of the closest bushes and trees when we heard:

"Target--artillery battery.... Bearing.... Range.... Elevation.... Consumption.... Fire...."

The forest bellowed. Lightning seemed to flash from behind the dark wall of trees, and a moment later the shells exploded in fire, and the dull thud reached our ears.

All targets were hit right on the money. Captain V. Biryukov handled his responsibilities successfully. And in the dim light of the observation point we could see a smile spreading over the face of "dead" Major V. Sokolov.

Yes, the path toward victory in combat is truly commander must mentally play out different variants again and again, and he must ponder the elements of the situation that had not been considered yet, what had been done, and what there was still to do. And more than the others, the political worker has to think about placing the entire arsenal of ideological indoctrination resources into action. What would he have to do to see that the measures he implemented would have a powerful mobilizing force upon the soldiers? Where would he best place his active party and Komsomol members in order to insure that every soldier would feel the influence of the political measures? How should party-political work be organized in offense and in defense? How should it be organized during redeployment?

The missions posed by the commander must be completed. And it is people who will be completing them, people who must be tuned to reaching the common goal. Everything is important in this--the personal example of the activist, his words, prompt mail deliveries, and fresh food. It is also especially important to create, within the collective, an atmosphere in which each soldier would mature ideologically and acquire a warrior's qualities.

The tactical field firing exercise conducted in the artillery unit demonstrated that there is concern here for developing qualities a soldier needs in combat. But it would be wrong to keep silent about shortcomings revealed during this serious examination.

For example one of the officers, relying on his previous knowledge of the terrain, took the wrong turn during the night march. His knowledge was obsolete. In other words he was operating by stereotypic patterns. This comrade ended up having to be rescued.

Those who ignored camouflage and who failed to display initiative in anticipation of instructions also paid the price.

Naturally, all of these cases are lessons for the future, and the subject of routine, penetrating discussion at the party meeting. The party organizations and all communists of the unit will deeply and thoroughly analyze the party-political work in the tactical exercise as well. They will generalize the experience of the best active members, and they will think about the reserves for increasing their successes in indoctrinating the soldiers. Kind words will be addressed toward those who took the pains to see that the soldiers would view films on the Great Patriotic War in the tent camp. Criticism will be levied against those who failed to make active use of technical propaganda resources during the exercise, or even forgot to reserve the club tape recorder, as a result of which they were unable to record information on life in the country and events abroad, or the speeches of the best soldiers.

The political workers will turn the discussion to the fact that political reports should not be limited to lists of measures implemented in the subunits; instead, the measures should be analyzed thoroughly, and the political workers should know how to pick out the main points, and discern what it is that keeps party work from becoming more objective and effective. And everyone will probably recall at this moment what such reports meant in the hard war years. Sometimes it

happened that they were the sole sources of information from the troops, and it was from these reports that history learned of the unprecedented bravery of Soviet soldiers and officers on the battlefields, and of the invaluable kernels of experience in working with people during combat.

Now that the tactical field firing exercise is behind us and we know that despite certain shortcomings the examination was passed successfully, and we have been persuaded that the communists of the artillery unit are truly the advance guard of the collective, that they are fully resolved to help the commander every day in leading the personnel to new successes in the socialist competition and to honorably greet the 26th CPSU Congress, the training range once again comes to mind. I can once again imagine the tongues of fire shooting forth from gun barrels peering out of the bushes. In a few seconds the thunder abates and, soaring above us, a lark issues forth a joyful, carefree song high in the sky.

And I could hear one of the gunners saying:

"It is of life that the little bird sings."

Battalion deputy commander for political affairs V. Kravchenko adds:

"Of life for which we are all responsible."

Soldiers fall silent. The words of the political worker, heard by all, now bear some sort of new, special meaning, confirming within the consciousness of the soldiers the responsibility imposed upon them by the motherland. And these words, the shortest statement made by anyone throughout the exercise, will be remembered by all, remembered for a long time to come.

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Follow-Up Report

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 20, Oct 80 signed to press 3 Oct 80 p 96

[Text] A piece by Lieutenant Colonel Ye. Gryaznov, "Communists Set the Tone at Exercises", published in issue No 15 of this journal, analyzed the work of the political worker and party organization aimed at mobilizing the soldiers of an artillery unit for exemplary fulfillment of the missions facing the collective. It was reported to the editorial board that the article had been discussed at a conference attended by officers, warrant officers, and political workers, and at seminars attended by the party and Komsomol organization secretaries.

Recommendations stated in the article on improving party-political work in the field were accounted for, and the revealed shortcomings are being corrected. New reserves have been found for improving party-political work, which are now being utilized in the course of special tactical exercises in the unit's training center.

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At The Company Level

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNIYKH SİL in Russian No 15, Aug 80 signed to press
18 Jul 80 pp 56-60

[Article by Col K. Pogozev: "Political Briefing in the Company"]

[Text] One of the forms of mass agitation, the political briefing has firmly entered the life of the army and navy collectives, and it is an effective means of political, military, and moral indoctrination of the servicemen. Experience accumulated in the best units and aboard the best ships in implementing the CPSU Central Committee decree "On Further Improvement of Ideological and Political Indoctrination" persuades us that the role of political briefings is growing in today's conditions. Soviet soldiers are avidly interested in our party's domestic and foreign policy, and in the important events in the country and abroad. As with all Soviet people, the attention of army and navy soldiers is centered today on decisions of the June (1980) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the Third Session, Ninth Convocation of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Broad publicity on these documents and mobilization of the masses for an honorable welcome to the 26th CPSU Congress make up a priority political task. Political briefings are to play an important role in completing this task.

The principal purpose of political briefings is to regularly inform the personnel, in the most effective manner possible, on decisions of the Communist Party and Soviet government, to explain the most important current events in domestic and international life, and to illuminate the life of the troops and the missions of the personnel. Demonstration of the successes of the Soviet people in development of communism and the achievements of fraternal socialist countries has an important place in the subject matter of political briefings. Political briefings devoted to speeches by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Comrade L. I. Brezhnev as well as of other executives of the party and the Soviet state have tremendous significance to indoctrination. The personnel are highly interested in information on the USSR's consistent peace-loving policy, and on the CPSU's untiring efforts at strengthening the country's defense capabilities and raising the combat power of our armed forces. One important topic of the political briefings is that of strengthening friendships with fraternal socialist countries and combat cooperation with their armies.

Political briefings revealing the monstrous countenance of imperialism and unmasking the aggressive policy of reactionary forces of the USA and its NATO allies, Beijing interests, and all those who aim to upset detente and who have assumed a course of increasing tension and provoking complications and conflict in different regions of the world are extremely important. Many political briefings are devoted to unmasking ideological sabotage by the enemies of socialism and false hostile propaganda on the superiority of the "Free World", on the so-called "Soviet military threat", and other topics. The need for intensifying the struggle against hostile ideology was indicated at a recent conference of army and navy commanders and political executives, who discussed further improvement of the role of the Soviet Armed Forces in indoctrination. Considering the growing scale and sophistication of anti-Soviet propaganda, it was

emphasized at this conference, it is important to impart even greater effectiveness and aggressiveness to publicity on the Soviet way of life and on the achievements and advantages of the socialist structure, and to persuasively unmask bourgeois and revisionist ideology, and Maoism and Zionism.

The combat training and service of subunit, unit, and ship personnel, the state of military discipline, and the progress of the socialist competition are also illuminated in political briefings, and the best experience is publicized. Prior to tactical exercises and field firings and launchings, for example, political briefings usually explain the goals and tasks of the exercise to the soldiers, and the safety measures. However, such political briefings cannot be transformed into a unique sort of working conferences. Political briefings must focus on ideology in all cases.

Persuasive party words uttered during a political briefing help the personnel to understand the politics of events and phenomena in social life, they raise the consciousness of the soldiers and their ideological convictions, and they promote formation of communist philosophy, a sense of Soviet patriotism and proletarian internationalism, a feeling of friendship among peoples of the USSR, alertness, and the ability to withstand all intrigues of bourgeois ideology. These words mobilize the soldiers for conscientious military labor. Now, in the heat of summer training, political briefings have the job of supporting the task of upgrading the quality of combat and political training and fulfilling the plans and adopted socialist pledges.

A high level of ideology, topicality, effectiveness, high objectivity, and a close association with the life of military collectives and their missions are required of political briefings. These qualities are achieved mainly through correct choice of the topics of political briefings and substantial preparation of the officers giving them. It should be considered that today's soldiers and sergeants have a high level of education for the most part. As a rule they are well informed by the press, radio, and television. Therefore simple retelling of universal truths no longer satisfies them. They expect the political briefer to deeply analyze the events, to generalize them, to suggest valid conclusions, and to provide persuasive answers to questions troubling them. Wherever deputy unit commanders for political affairs personally plan the subject matter of the political briefings and make sure that the propaganda specialists are prepared, briefings given to subunit soldiers achieve their goals.

Political briefings are set up well, for example, in the unit in which Officer V. Dezhnev organizes political work. The briefings are planned each week, and they are conducted in all conditions--in the barracks, in the field, and during exercises. The topics of the political briefings are concrete and up-to-date as a rule, and they account for the needs of the soldiers and the specific tasks of the subunits. Not only subunit commanders and political workers but also the unit commander, his deputies, and staff officers speak to the personnel. Senior chiefs usually provide information to the personnel on the most important topics. As an example some of the political briefings were devoted to decisions of the November (1979) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speech to voters of the Baumanskii Election District in Moscow, the 110th anniversary of V. I. Lenin's birth, the 35th anniversary of the Soviet Union in the Great Patriotic War, the 25th anniversary of the Warsaw Pact, the jubilee

conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee, and other topics. The unit staff officers helped to explain the documents of the June (1980) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the Third Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet to the soldiers. It has become a firm practice here for the deputy commander for political affairs to determine, jointly with the publicity expert, the subject matter of the political briefings of the next week, and to make the subunit commanders aware of the topics before their deadline for scheduling the lessons. This allows officers responsible for giving the political briefings to begin preparations for them in time. As a rule the political briefers are given instructions, and they are provided with the references and visual aids they would need.

Many years of experience persuade us that without meticulous independent preparation of an officer for a political briefing, we cannot count on the briefing's success. It is important in this case not only to study the recommended literature but also to thoughtfully think out the details of the plan, content, and format of the talk, and to select the necessary facts. This is precisely what is done by experienced propagandists. And this is fully justified. After all, only 30 minutes are allocated to a political briefing. And during this time there is much that must be said--briefly but thoroughly, comprehensibly and persuasively. And without preparation this would not be easy to do.

This truth has been assimilated well by unit propagandist Officer N. Yarmolyuk. Preparing a political briefing on the topic "Maoist China--the Accomplice of Imperialism, a Source of Military Danger", he pondered over and over again what he was to say the next day to his audience. He selected the facts, examples, illustrations, and visual aids with special care. The propagandist knew that the content of the topic was already familiar in many ways to the listeners. They attentively follow the events in China through newspaper, radio, and television reports. Platoon agitators have also had their say. They discussed various articles published in periodicals with the soldiers--"Fabrications of Beijing Propaganda", "Reliance Upon Militarism and Chauvinism", and "The Bloody Tracks of the Maoists". It was clear that if everything the people already knew was to be repeated on the next day, it would hardly be possible to capture the interest of the audience.

Nevertheless the propagandist was certain that this topic needed a political briefing. He came to this conclusion after speaking to agitators and other activists. He found that many privates and sergeants had little knowledge of the problem's prehistory. The class essence and the antisocialist orientation of the policies of Maoism had to be revealed, and it had to be demonstrated that this policy is seriously hindering relaxation of international tension, and that it is aimed against the fundamental interests of the peoples of the world, and mainly the Chinese themselves. These became the main issues of the propagandist's speech. His documented, emotionally colored narration caught the people's attention. The political briefing attained its goal. The soldiers left the Lenin room with a feeling of satisfaction, and an awareness of the need for strengthening the unit's combat readiness. Lively criticisms and exclamations of concern could be heard in relation to the treacherous policy of the Beijing leaders, who have become the active accomplices of the most reactionary and aggressive forces of imperialism.

Here is an example of a different sort. A political briefing on the topic "High Effectiveness for the Socialist Competition" was being held in the Lenin room of one of the subunits. A sufficiently experienced commander was giving the briefing--Lieutenant A. Smerdyagin. The briefing had been going on for only 15 minutes, but the audience was already restlessly awaiting its end, in the way one sees when a propagandist is unable to establish vital contact with the audience, and people lose their hope of getting anything new, interesting, and useful from the narration. The propagandist made a technical error right at the beginning of his talk.

"Today," he said, "my objective is mobilize you for successful fulfillment of your socialist pledges."

Of course this was one of the goals of the political briefing, but it should have been attained through good documentation and through the concreteness and persuasiveness of the arguments. Instead, nothing more than familiar excerpts from the manuals, hackneyed truths, and unoriginal declarations were all that emanated from the podium. Moreover they were presented in a didactic, imperative tone. From a formal standpoint the propagandist did everything he should have, and he even made personal references to the soldiers. But these were only empty phrases and assertions, ones having little impact on the listeners.

As an example he uttered the universally known statement that the main task of the socialist competition is to attain high-quality fulfillment of the combat training plans and the combat training standards. We would have thought that he would have explained exactly what the platoons, detachments, and individual soldiers had to do to complete the concrete missions facing the company at the moment. And these missions were not that easy. The personnel were to take lessons on the topic "The Tank Company in the Offensive" and "Firing at Targets of Opportunity From a Moving Tank". There were also important lessons in other disciplines. But unfortunately nothing was said about any of this. The political briefer's attempts at using a plotting board reflecting the course of the competition as a means for "tying in" the material with the life of the company ended in failure. It was found following the political briefing that the data on the plotting board were wrong: Even the competitors were named incorrectly. Of course, the commander was not the one who entered the data on the plotting board. But as long as he decided to use it in his talk, he should have made sure that all of the facts on it were correct.

The main reason for the failure of this generally well-informed officer, one who had experience in public speaking, was that he relied on previous experience alone. The topic was simple, everything was understandable, and he had spoken on it hundreds of times. He felt he could speak *impromptu*. He threw the briefing plan together hurriedly. It consisted of a few common phrases filling not even half a page: "State the topic, define the mobilizing force of competition, reveal its fundamental principles...." But such preparation was found to be ineffective. The "seat of the pants" briefing failed.

It is entirely obvious that it is easier to prepare for a political briefing if the topic is known beforehand and if there is enough time to study and understand it. But this is precisely where the difficulty of the political briefer's work lies: Very often he speaks to the people, explains the essence of phenomena, and

politically orients and mobilizes the soldiers in hot pursuit of the events, so to speak, and often right in the course of their development. Perhaps more so than anyone else, the political briefer requires effective help. And just attending the political briefing and analyzing it after it is over is not going to help, even if the analysis is very qualified and instructive. A person who is to assume the podium tomorrow needs the experienced propagandist's help today in analyzing the topic, revealing what is most important and most significant within it, correctly evaluating a given event or phenomenon, and demonstrating the trends of its development. Experience showed that efficient instruction is the main form of such work.

In order to train political briefers better, they are specialized in particular areas of propaganda in many units of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany, the Belorussian, Odessa, and Transbaykal military districts, and aboard ships of the Northern and Black Sea fleet: the country's socioeconomic development, international life, problems of moral, military, and legal indoctrination, and so on. Narrower specialties are also possible as well. Of course the possibilities for such division of labor of political briefers do not always exist. But in cases where almost all of the officers of the unit or ship are highly trained, such specialization is possible and even necessary.

Providing help to political briefers presupposes developing their pedagogical culture and their ability to use words. Accuracy, simplicity, and expressiveness are urgent necessities to the political briefer. Only if he has these qualities would he be capable, as V. I. Lenin taught, "to influence the given audience in the best way possible, making known truths more persuasive, more easily assimilated, more graphical, and more memorable."

One unique feature of the political briefing is its progressive nature. Developing this characteristic, political briefers try to give support to all that is new and progressive in the life of the troops, and to decisively struggle against those elements that keep the military collective from moving forward in improving its combat and political preparedness and strengthening its military discipline. Political briefings in the unit in which Captain N. Yeliseyev is the political worker have become an important means of personnel indoctrination. The political briefers try to achieve open discussion of urgent problems in the life of a collective, they do not avoid unsolved, acute problems, and they do not keep silent about shortcomings and difficulties. All of this helps to make this form of political agitation a part of the struggle against negative phenomena in troop training and indoctrination and to develop an intolerance of violations of the norms of communist morality and unlawful mutual relationships.

Noting the cumulative positive experience in organizing and conducting political briefings, we should also mention the significant shortcomings that still exist in some units and subunits. Sometimes it happens that the topics of the political briefings are thrown together thoughtlessly, without being tied in with the life and daily tasks of the soldiers. Sometimes topics that can be illuminated only in extensive lectures or reports are included in the political briefing plans. In a number of cases the political briefings are boiled down to reading materials from periodicals without offering any sort of commentary or without tying the information in with the life of the subunits. Sometimes political briefing organizers limit themselves to questions of international life, devoting little attention to

demonstrating the socioeconomic achievements of our country or explaining the tasks facing the soldiers. On occasion the time allocated to political briefings is actually used to analyze some particular incident or to discuss the day's agenda. Some propagandists leave questions of the listeners unanswered in the course of a political briefing. Correction of these shortcomings would be an important reserve for raising the effectiveness of political briefings.

Improving political information provided to personnel in light of the CPSU Central Committee decree "On Further Improvement of Ideological and Political Indoctrination" is a subject of constant concern of commanders, political organs, and party organizations. The task is to improve the organization and quality of political briefings in an effort to raise their role in indoctrinating armed defenders of the motherland, developing the creativity of the soldiers, and mobilizing their efforts to successfully complete the combat and political training tasks, promote further growth of troop combat readiness, and achieve an honorable welcome for the 26th CPSU Congress.

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HELICOPTER UNIT ACTIVITIES IN AFGHANISTAN DESCRIBED

Moscow KRYL'YA RODINY in Russian No 9, Sep 80 pp 18-19

[Article by Col A. Khorobryy: "Airfield in the Mountains--From an Afghan Notebook"]

[Text] In letters to the editor, the readers of KRYL'YA RODINY ask us to tell about our aviators who are fulfilling their international mission in friendly Afghanistan as part of the limited contingent of Soviet forces. We are publishing the notes of the military journalist, Col A. Khorobryy, who was with the helicopter pilots.

Even for Afghanistan, this tiny mountain airfield is one of the hottest spots. And that is not only because the thermometer shows a day-time temperature far above +30 degrees Centigrade even in early May. "From the end of December last year we have been working, in essence, with no time off," says Capt A. Klimanov. "Flights with people, rations and other cargoes. We have happened to fly with our wounded Afghan comrades, victims of bandit raids by the Dushmani."

(In these regions, as in all of Afghanistan, the bands of counter-revolutionaries, sent by the imperialists and the Chinese hegemonists to the territory of this sovereign state, are called Dushmani.)

"Recently Maj Gaynutdinov," Capt Klimanov continues, "transported a young girl to the main airfield. The Dushmani struck her with a knife, struck her only because she was going to school. Unfortunately, it was not possible to save the girl."

Maj Gaynutdinov is chatting with Capt Obolonin off away from us. They are going over the details of the next mission.

"Volodya Obolonin," nods Klimanov towards the speakers, "was among the first to begin flights above the mountains. And such flights have their own peculiarities. The first few times it was a little difficult. Now the crews successfully deal with any mission."

Maj Gaynutdinov, having finished his conversation with Obolonin, headed towards us and invited us into the helicopter pilots' break building. It was a little crowded there, but cool. A short, sturdy, round-faced fellow in a brown flight jacket sat

at the table forming a "paper," dedicated to the latest successful flight by Capt L. Tuktarev's crew. However, I was not able to become acquainted with the editor of the "paper."

"Kopchikov, to take-off," the voice of the operations officer rang from the ceiling of the building.

The sturdy fellow gave the paper to the soldier standing next to him, looked at his watch and sped to his helicopter.

"Capt Kopchikov," Maj Gaynutdinov said, "is the political worker. He is a born commissar. He has the ability to find common ground with people and is able to influence them by personal example." Something new is felt in the distance. It was he who had suggested the publishing of the "political information officer paper."

I am listening to the major, while a brightly colored display stands in front of me which, on the day before, I had happened to see in the headquarters. The display told of the bravery and mastery of Capt V. Kopchikov, displayed during a forced landing in the mountains in the winter of this year. And also about how his commander and friend, Maj V. Shcherbakov, sped to the rescue of Vladimir Fedorovich. The major, in an Mi-8, in spite of the fierce cold, skillfully landed alongside the crew in distress and brought it to its base.

In that flight, Maj Gaynutdinov was the group leader. Everything happened in front of his eyes. I asked the major to tell about this episode.

"Do you remember in Suvorov!" he began. "Die yourself, but save your comrade. Vladimir Fedorovich did everything possible to save the crew, its valuable cargo and the helicopter. Maj Vasilii Vasil'evich Shcherbakov also performed a heroic act. He was able to let his Mi-8 down where it was truly impossible to land.

"Obolonin, to your aircraft!" again the voice of the operations officer rang out.

"He's from Gorkiy," said Maj Gaynutdinov about Obolonin. "We are school buddies, we entered college together. We were assigned to the same regiment upon completion of our studies. Now we are here together. He misses his wife and daughter."

"He's the one who really knows the skies of Afghanistan!" he said admiringly of his combat comrade.

Capt Kopchikov, although he had landed just 10 minutes ago, was again preparing for a flight.

"What is your mission?" I ask.

"We are flying in a pair to deliver bread for the engineers. Why do we fly in pairs? It is impossible any other way. Flights in the mountains are far from safe and radio communication is possible only with line-of-sight visibility. Here mutual assistance of the crews solves everything."

My desire to fly to the engineers, who were cut off in the mountains by blown bridges and ravines, ripened immediately. I spoke about it to Maj Gaynutdinov.

"Well, why not, but be sure to come back and, as they say, have a good flight," Vyacheslav Karibulovich laughed.

While Capt Kopchikov was in the air, I found out certain details of his biography. He was born, as were Gaynutdinov and Obolonin, in 1947. His birthplace was the village of Putyashevo in the Kirov Oblast.

"Before entry into the Syzransk Higher Military Flight Training Academy," Maj Gaynutdinov said, "Kopchikov successfully served as a master submariner in the Pacific Ocean Navy. He served well, but the life of the sea didn't please him. After a year as an 'excellent seaman' in combat and military training, he received the right to take the entrance exams into our school. Obolonin and I by that time had already advanced to the second class."

"Kopchikov," said Maj Gaynutdinov into the air, "land without shutting down. You're taking on a guest with you."

"Roger," answered a happy voice. "Let's get on with it."

In a minute I was running towards the Mi-8, whose lift rotor blades continued to rotate. There was the smell of freshly baked bread in the cabin. The crew chief ravenously chewed a toasted crust. The door was shut and the helicopter gained altitude. I settled down alongside the aircraft commander; here it was easier to see his work and there was a broad field of view from the cockpit. The adobe huts of an Afghan village and a large herd of sheep flashed by under the helicopter. A canyon with a looping mountain stream in it was visible in front of us.

We introduced ourselves. Vladimir Fedorovich Kopchikov turned out to be a cordial man with a sense of humor.

"Here you can fly without a map," he said. "The mountains, like a railroad track, don't let you stray off course."

"And there are no difficulties?"

A smile touched his bronzed face. It has long been known that craftsmen do not speak about the difficulties of their work or speak of it in a half-joking manner. Capt Kopchikov was a cohort of the true masters.

To the right of us an Mi-6 floated along like a whale with short stubby wings.

"The artists have flown in," Vladimir Fedorovich said, "there will be a concert this evening, if a storm does not interfere."

I look through the window. The weather is beautiful.

"A storm? In such weather?"

"Mountains are mountains."

Our helicopter is traveling at an altitude of 2,500 meters. And the mountains are still higher. Many of the peaks were covered with snow, but even more of the brown

rocks were covered with scree. Looking at them, you begin to understand why cartographers colored the entire territory of Afghanistan different shades of brown.

The helicopter kept turning, first to the right and then to the left, with a jeweler's precision repeating each sharp bend in the canyon. Panoramas opened up, each more beautiful than the last. The brown rock scree alternated with the emerald of alpine meadows, with glades of blooming poppies and plots of fields, shaped by the hands of the Afghan peasants.

But Capt Kopchikov had no time for exotic objects. Right now the crew is interested in the road, hewed out of the rocky incline above the river.

"Look, there's an avalanche!" Vladimir Fedorovich pointed ahead. "That's the work of Dushmani."

I clearly pick out a fresh, broad rocky scree, which begins at our flight level, chokes off almost a kilometer-long section of the mountain road and comes to rest in the seething current of the stream. There is earth dredging equipment and the small figures of people alongside it. They cordially wave at us.

"Our engineers are helping the Afghanis," said an airman.

The avalanche was left behind. Because of the gloomy crag hanging above the road, the engineers' bivouac suddenly came into view. It was just a stone's throw from an Afghan village. Alongside the village was a spacious square, where sheep and goats grazed. The Soviet soldiers did not occupy it. In the mountains, each plot of fertile land is taken into account. Our soldiers had settled down on the rocky shore of the stream, where they had cleared two tiny helicopter landing pads.

"Most often we have to transport wounded Afghanis from here," my companion began and then fell silent. He concentrated all his attention on the landing. As we approached the earth, a thick, brown cloud of dust rose around the helicopter. How Vladimir Fedorovich and his copilot determine the distance to the ground in such conditions is incomprehensible to the mind. And the landing pad is so small that the tail boom hangs out over the precipice above the turbid stream.

And the number 2 crew landed in the very same conditions.

The bread was unloaded without shutting down the engines.

Their revolutions were maintained by the navigator, Sr Lt Nikolay Mokrousov. It was with him and Vladimir Rudenko that Capt Kopchikov had landed in the mountains in the winter of that year.

I tried to shift the conversation to that flight, but there was no way.

"Recall what?" the captain joked. "Today we have other concerns and it's time for us to return with you."

The take-off turned out to be no less complex than the landing. There was the very same, dark brown column of dust, the very same worthless visibility. But Capt Kopchikov was calm. He did everything confidently and precisely. After several seconds

the helicopter springs from its dusty captivity and a new flight begins along the canyon which is as old as the hills. At the base airfield, the flights were in full swing, but while we were gone something had changed on the spacious parking ramp, which was built in the spring with the help of our Afghan comrades. When we had flown closer, an improvised stage with music stands and amplifier towers arranged on it became visible between the special purpose vehicles and the helicopters.

Capt Kopchikov lowered the helicopter to the earth for a minute to let me out, while he and his mates again lifted off into the sky. An enormous cloud arose from behind the mountains.

"Begin before it rains," Maj Gaynutdinov told the orchestra leader. "There are only two pairs in the air, but even they will soon return."

The brass section of the orchestra blared out. The base guitar distinctly beat out a rhythm. Soloists alternated. Russian songs poured out over the canyon, while flight mission accomplishment reports were heard over the loud speaker.

The Soviet airmen religiously fulfill their international obligation.

PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. P 1. First-Class Military Flight Officers V. Gaynutdinov, V. Shcherbakov and V. Obolonin after flights.
2. P 2. Concert at the airfield.

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NEED TO CONTINUE DETENTE IN 1980'S STRESSED

Moscow MIROVAYA EKONOMIKA I MEZHDUNARODNYYE OTNOSHENIYA in Russian No 10, Oct 80
signed to press 30 Sep 80 pp 3-16

[Article by O. Bykov: "In the Vanguard of the Struggle To Strengthen Peace"]

[Text] The Leninist party of communists and all Soviet people are advancing toward the 26th Congress of the CPSU in full awareness of the historical significance of their great achievements in building communism and their tireless struggle for peace, international cooperation, freedom, and independence among the world's peoples. Our country has made a truly inestimable contribution to the revolutionary renewal of the world and securing peaceful conditions for human development. In alliance with all the progressive, democratic, and liberation forces of the day socialism is the main and most effective factor in strengthening international security.

I

The process of removing war from the life of human society is a result of the whole course of world development in our age. It is the natural result of the change in the ratio of forces between the socialist world and the capitalist world. While fostering progressive changes in the world, the consolidation of the position of socialism at the same time broadens the opportunities for strengthening peace among peoples.

But the realization of these possibilities does not happen by itself. Purposeful, persistent effort is required. There must be a consistent policy relying on the support of the broadest masses of people throughout the world, cooperating in the peace-loving actions of the most diverse social and political forces considering the complexities and contradictions of contemporary international relations, and capable of combining firm resistance to aggression with a constant striving toward constructive solutions to the disputes that arise in relations between countries belonging to different social systems and having different foreign policy orientations.

The father of this policy, of the peace-loving policy of socialism, was the great Lenin. The Soviet people and the CPSU have carried high the banner of this class, but at the same time truly universal, policy through all their harsh trials.

No changes in the international situation, no tricks by the enemies of peace and progress have been able to force the Soviet Union to turn away from the principal path toward peace. Leninist strength of principle in defense of this cause that is in the fundamental interest of all peoples has produced tangible and significant results.

The past decade was marked by deep and positive changes in the world situation. Thanks above all to the energetic and multifaceted activity of the Soviet Union and the socialist community, relying on the growth in the fraternal countries' economic and defensive might, a healthy political climate was created in the world in the 1970's. Implementation of the Leninist foreign policy of the 24th and 25th CPSU congresses was crucial in making the transition from cold war to international detente, reducing the danger of world thermonuclear war, and creating favorable preconditions for peaceful settlement of conflicts among nations. Peaceful coexistence among countries with different social orders took root and received concrete economic and political meaning in the course of the development of detente. Promising steps were taken toward stopping the arms race and moving toward real disarmament.

At the turn of the decade, however, aggressive imperialist forces, above all the United States, began to attempt to thwart detente, stiffen resistance to the Soviet Union, the socialist community, and all peace-loving democratic movements, step up the arms race, and return the world to the days of tense, hostile confrontation. The Chinese leadership, pursuing a rapprochement with the most militant circles of imperialism for the sake of its own hegemonistic objectives, played an extremely negative and provocative role.

In this international situation the Central Committee of the CPSU and the Soviet State are showing true Leninist self-control, firmness, and principle, defending and following the policy of preserving the peace and insuring the security of the Soviet people and international security, not falling prey to provocation and at the same time resisting imperialist pretension. Soviet foreign policy is constantly aimed at consolidating the fraternal alliance of the socialist countries by every means, supporting the just struggle of the world's peoples for freedom and independence, for peaceful coexistence, restraining the arms race, preserving and furthering international detente, and achieving mutually advantageous cooperation in the economic, scientific, and cultural spheres.

Strengthening world peace remains the only reasonable and promising way to develop international relations in our day. The only alternative is increasing hostility and mistrust, pushing the human race to the brink of military disaster. In its decree "The International Situation and the Foreign Policy of the Soviet Union," the June 1980 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee stressed: "There are objective opportunities and sociopolitical forces that are capable of preventing the movement toward a new cold war, insuring normal peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems, and averting the threat of world thermonuclear conflict. The way to resolve this problem is negotiations based on strict compliance with the principle of equality and equal security." As the course of events shows, detente has put down deep roots in contemporary international life. It has a real chance to remain the dominant trend in world politics.

The 1970's were a historical turning point in the development of international relations. Relying on the strength, solidarity, and vigor of world socialism and its growing alliance with all progressive and peace-loving forces, the Soviet Union made a decisive contribution to overcoming the cold war and making the transition to peaceful coexistence among countries with different social orders. The seemingly deadly process of escalating danger of a general military confrontation was halted and everything possible was accomplished to insure conditions for peaceful building in our country and the fraternal countries of socialism and to assure peace and security for all peoples. A turn away from tension that threatened to explode toward detente and normal, mutually advantageous cooperation was achieved.

The radical improvement in international life was predetermined by the dynamics of the competition and struggle between the states of the opposing social systems in the world arena. Despite all the attempts by the aggressive circles of imperialism to use force to halt the objective process of renewing the world, the barrenness and riskiness of this line became increasingly obvious through the postwar decades as the might of world socialism and its allies steadily grew. It did not take enormous efforts to make the leaders of the capitalist countries see that a policy of negotiating disputes, not balancing on the brink of war, of peaceful cooperation instead of a hostile standoff, is not only rational, at least from the standpoint of the national interests of their own countries, but also absolutely necessary.

In this respect, the military-strategic equilibrium between the socialist world and the capitalist world that has come about is fundamentally important. It was a powerful restraint on the aggressive aspirations of imperialism and, at the same time, a realistic basis for overcoming confrontation and cutting back on the arms race while strictly observing the principles of equality and equal security.

It has been very important in normalizing the international situation that our party and its Leninist Central Committee, headed by L. I. Brezhnev, have clearly laid out the basic challenges of practical activity to strengthen world peace, formulated them in a concrete foreign policy program, and worked constantly to carry them out. Overcoming the resistance of militaristic forces in the international arena, the CPSU and the Soviet State have boldly and energetically undertaken a "peace offensive" that is unprecedented in scope and concreteness.

On the road to detente it was necessary to reject the dogma of the period of rigid confrontation and to introduce new standards in international dealings to reflect the realities of the contemporary world and meet the interests of all peoples. It was necessary to overcome the inertia of the past and begin building a system of mutual relations that will not infringe on the security of either side and will strengthen general security. Following the teachings of Lenin and based on the rich experience it has gained in the struggle for peace, the Soviet Union has been persistent and flexible in pursuing its goals. It has become the pacesetter in international detente. Our paramount attention has been focused on achieving a constructive change in those spheres of mutual relations which most deeply involve the fundamental issue of war and peace.

A major change in averting a global armed clash was the positive shift that took place in Soviet-American relations at the turn of the 1960's and 1970's. The entire international climate depends largely on these relations. As the result of summit meetings the Soviet Union and the United States signed fundamental documents which laid out the principles of peaceful coexistence as the basis of relations between the two countries. In conformity with the Agreement on Avoiding Nuclear War the two parties obligated themselves to endeavor to eliminate the risk of a military conflict, particularly a nuclear one, both between themselves and between each of the parties and other states. The Agreement on Limitation of Antimissile Defense Systems, the Provisional Agreement on Limitation of Strategic Offensive Weapons, and other Soviet-American agreements and accords aimed at stopping the arms race were crucial in reducing the danger of war.

Particularly tangible changes for the good have taken place in Europe. On the initiative of the USSR and the other socialist states the process of insuring European security on the basis of recognition of the territorial and political realities that took shape after World War II has developed broadly. Cooperation between the Soviet Union and France has developed successfully on this solid foundation. Soviet-French summit talks have become traditional. During them the positions of the two countries on a number of foreign policy issues have converged; Soviet-French communication and contacts have become active on many levels.

There has been a major change for the better in the mutual relations of the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic of Germany on the basis of the 1970 Treaty. Their relations have assumed a normal course, and this has been on the only possible basis: rejection of any claims to redraw the political map of Europe. The FRG has become one of the USSR's largest partners in mutually advantageous cooperation. Constant Soviet-West German meetings at the highest level have made it possible to improve mutual understanding and normalize the political climate on the European continent.

The mutual relations between the Soviet Union and the other countries of Western Europe have also developed in positive directions. This has helped bring about an atmosphere of stability and calm on the continent.

With regard to insuring international security it is hard to overstate the importance of the settlement concerning West Berlin. The agreement of the USSR, United States, England, and France reached in the fall of 1971, together with agreements and accords on a number of issues among the governments of East and West Germany and the West Berlin Senate, removed the tension.

The results of the meeting on security and cooperation in Europe were a major and lasting advance for the cause of peace. The Concluding Act signed in Helsinki in August 1975 by the leaders of 33 European states plus the United States and Canada summarized the political results of World War II and underscored the sterility and danger of policy from a position of strength and the cold war. At the same time the all-Europe meeting opened up new possibilities of solving the central problem of our day: solidifying international peace and security. The principles of international dealings agreed upon by the participants established a basis for precluding aggression and all other types of force from relations among states in Europe.

The elimination of a number of centers of war has helped bolster international peace. The cessation of the war in Vietnam was especially important. The heroic liberation struggle of the Vietnamese people with the support of the fraternal socialist countries and the progressive community of the whole world ended in the utter defeat of the American interventionists and their henchmen. The Vietnamese victory offered new horizons to all Southeast Asia, creating the prerequisites for turning this region into a zone of peace and cooperation.

Many developing countries have contributed to strengthening international security. The nonalignment movement became an influential force that holds back imperialist claims in different parts of the world. The members of this movement support the creation of zones of peace, elimination of foreign military bases (military forces stationed in other than their own countries), prevention of any outside interference in the domestic affairs of nations, guaranteeing the rights of peoples to free and independent development, and establishment of a new international economic order on a just and democratic basis.

The atmosphere of detente made it much more difficult for the Beijing hegemonists to pursue their dangerous line of pitting some states against others and provoking armed clashes between them. The plans of the Chinese leaders for a devastating nuclear war between the main forces of socialism and capitalism, which would supposedly clear the road to world domination for them, have become more and more unrealistic.

Overall, through the combined efforts of many countries more positive changes have been made in the past decade than in any other since World War II. The danger of a world thermonuclear war has been significantly reduced. Qualitative improvements have occurred in international relations. Prospects are excellent for insuring stable peace and international security.

Recently, however, the aggressive forces of imperialism have begun a furious counteroffensive to turn back international development. The leaders of the NATO military bloc, in particular the United States, began trying to bury international detente and restore their position of strength in order to exercise their imperialist dictate. They decided to strike the main blow at the military equilibrium existing in the world and to strive for strategic advantages to the detriment of the Soviet Union and the socialist community and to the detriment of the security of all peoples.

For this purpose a resolution was adopted on a three percent annual increase in the military spending of the North Atlantic bloc, a broad five-year program to build up U.S. arms was worked out, and plans were outlined for locating new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe. At the height of these rushed military preparations aggressive new strategic conceptions also appeared, such as the notorious Presidential Directive No 59, envisioning war waged with weapons of mass destruction.

The rapprochement of militant Western circles, chiefly in the United States, with the Chinese leadership on an anti-Soviet basis hostile to peace was a new and dangerous phenomenon. Their cooperation is fraught with great potential for grave consequences in relation to international security.

An explosive situation continues in the Middle East where the Israeli expansionists, relying on U.S. support, are attempting to consolidate the fruits of aggression and perpetuate the occupation of the lands they seized. The anti-Arab and anti-Palestinian conspiracy of Israel and Egypt, carried on under Washington's patronage, creates additional obstacles in the way of a just settlement of the Middle East conflict.

The intrigues of imperialism and other enemies of peace demand constant vigilance and a steady increase in the defense capability of the USSR and its allies in order to prevent a disruption of the strategic balance.

Firmly opposing the aggressive claims of the United States and its accomplices, the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries persist in their struggle to preserve and develop detente and to strengthen international security.

The meeting of the Political Consulting Committee of the Warsaw Pact states, held in Warsaw in May of this year, demonstrated again the positive role of socialism in world affairs and its unwavering love of peace. The declaration adopted at the meeting and its announcement of the convocation of the summit meeting contain a concrete and constructive program of steps necessary to eliminate centers of tension and trends in international development that are dangerous to all peoples.

The countries represented at Warsaw stressed that the process of detente must be spread to all regions of the world. Anywhere that political tension or a conflict situation exists, be it the Middle East, Southeast Asia, southern Africa, or some other region, it is the duty of all countries, first, to do nothing that would aggravate the situation and, second, to contribute to the normalization of the situation by adopting an objective approach.

This kind of constructive approach is necessary in particular with the situation that has developed concerning Afghanistan. The Soviet Union is giving that country multifaceted aid in repelling armed attacks and flagrant intervention from outside. The purpose of the outside intervention is to suppress the Afghan revolution and create an imperialist base of operations for military aggression on the southern border of the USSR. A political resolution of the situation is possible. As the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has stated, this requires a complete halt to aggression against that country and reliable guarantees against subversive actions from abroad.

There is not and cannot be any reasonable alternative to the policy of detente. There is no country that would not benefit from a relaxation of international tension. There is no people for whom detente would not be beneficial.

III

The normalization of the international situation in the 1970's was not entirely the result of the lessened danger of war. This was also promoted to a large degree by constructive actions in the international sphere and a qualitatively new stage in economic and political cooperation by countries with different social systems.

The development of these positive processes, which are largely unique in the history of international relations, is the result of the joint activity of many countries. But the USSR and the other countries of the socialist community were the pioneers in building the foundation of a reliable peace and mutually advantageous cooperation. They deserve primary credit for the adjustment of international relations to conform to the realities of the contemporary world. They did everything in their power to ultimately arrive at that mutually acceptable basis on which a carefully weighed balance of interests among the most diverse countries can be defined and maintained.

On this level the most significant and lasting concern is insuring security and the development of cooperation in Europe. The Concluding Act signed in Helsinki was not just a major milestone on the road to ridding Europe of the horrors of war. Putting the past behind them, the Helsinki accords formulate a European policy for the present day and offer broad prospects for insuring a future of peace on the continent.

On 1 August 1975 in Helsinki the top leaders of the countries participating in the all-Europe meeting put their signatures on a document that marked a turning point in the history of Europe. For the first time a common denominator had been found for the interests of the most diverse nations: socialist and capitalist, large and small, members of military-political blocs and neutrals, European and North American. A reliable system of international security was agreed upon for the first time. Standards of equal, mutually advantageous cooperation among all countries for decades into the future were adopted for the first time.

The heart of the Concluding Act is the Declaration of Principles. The participating states obligated themselves to be guided by these principles in mutual relations. These principles are expected to lay a solid foundation for averting aggression and any other forms of force in mutual relations among European countries. This means the principles of peaceful coexistence. It means the principles of sovereign equality among states and their rights of sovereignty, including the right to freely choose and develop their own political, social, economic, and cultural systems, rejection of the use of force or the threat of force, inviolability of borders, the territorial integrity of states, peaceful settlement of disputes, nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other states, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, the equality of peoples and their right to govern their own destiny, cooperation among nations, and good-faith performance of international legal obligations.

The all-Europe meeting created the prerequisites for a significant expansion and activation of cooperation among participating states in the fields of economy, science, technology, environmental protection, and others as well as the areas of exchanges in culture, education, and information and interpersonal contacts.

The development of cooperation on an all-Europe scale while observing the laws and traditions of each country has helped consolidate mutual understanding on the continent. Implementation of the Helsinki accords enabled all the peoples of Europe to use the material and nonmaterial assets at their disposal more rationally and successfully.

Under the conditions of detente average annual trade between the socialist and capitalist countries of Europe has reached roughly 60 billion dollars (in 1965 it was 8.3 billion). The mechanism of foreign economic ties continued to be refined in the 1970's. Important agreements were reached on scientific-technical and production cooperation and long-term programs were developed and adopted to carry out large-scale projects in various economic sectors. All-Europe cooperation went beyond purely commercial transactions. In recent years new, nontraditional forms of relations have appeared, including compensation agreements, industrial collaboration, and technological exchange. According to figures from the U.N. European Economic Commission, there were about 600 agreements on industrial collaboration in 1973 and there are more than 1,500 today.

Mutual trade in licenses and patents is increasing rapidly. West European firms are showing a growing interest in broader use of the advances of the socialist countries in leading areas of science and technology. It is noteworthy that the growth rate for export of Soviet licenses in recent years has been 30 percent. The buyers are companies in the United States, the FRG, France, England, and other countries. Many scientific research programs being carried out jointly by socialist and capitalist countries on the continent are of all-European importance. This applies chiefly to cooperation in the energy field, where a number of agreements on scientific-technical cooperation are already in effect. Cooperation is developing successfully in medicine, space research, environmental protection, and several fields of pure scientific research.

Growing economic cooperation carries a tangible benefit to both Eastern and Western Europe. The socialist countries accelerate the development of their national economies by purchasing machinery, equipment, and patents and licenses for the extracting sectors, chemistry and petrochemistry, pulp and paper, and light and food industry in the West. At the same time trade with the socialist countries allows the countries of Western Europe to solve their own economic problems, increase the workload of production capacities, and increase the number of jobs in industry.

Commercial links with the socialist countries have an especially marked stimulating effect given the slowdown in the capitalist economy. In the FRG alone, for example, Soviet orders give work to 350,000 persons, and overall the volume of East-West trade today makes it possible for about 2 million persons to find work at enterprises in the capitalist countries.

The West European countries gain real advantages from buying fuel and raw material, some of it on a compensation basis. Suffice it to note that Western Europe today covers 20 percent of its natural gas import requirement with Soviet gas. As a major petroleum and gas exporter, chiefly to the CEMA countries but also to Western Europe, the Soviet Union is playing an active role in solving the energy problem on the European continent.

The processing of insuring security and the development of cooperation has not only improved the political climate in Europe noticeably but also made a significant contribution to the cause of international detente. The continent,

which for many centuries was an arena of bloody warfare, began turning into a zone of stable peace, a base from which detente could spread to other regions of the world.

In recent times, however, the positive development of international affairs in Europe, and also in the world at large, has encountered serious problems. Influential circles in the United States and the other NATO countries, continuing to think in confrontation terms, are trying to raise impediments to detente in Europe. The code of rules of behavior for states developed in Helsinki has already taken on real meaning in the mutually advantageous economic and political links between Eastern and Western Europe. To destroy the structure of these links is to strike a blow at the vital interests of both the socialist and the capitalist countries of the continent.

The Soviet Union and the other socialist nations are convinced that urgent steps are necessary to prevent a rebirth of the atmosphere of hostility and mistrust. The political, economic, scientific-technical, cultural, and other peaceful ties among the nations that took part in the all-Europe meeting must not be curtailed, they must be continued and expanded. It is essential for the exchange of opinions, ideas, and reasoning on timely European and world problems to continue within the framework of political contacts and consultation. Concrete, constructive joint efforts are required on implementation of all the principles and theses of the Concluding Act and all the Helsinki accords.

The upcoming meeting in Madrid with representatives of the states that participated in the all-Europe meeting can and must play an important role in continuation and furtherance of the process of insuring security and the development of cooperation in Europe. The current situation in Europe demands careful preparation for this meeting and creation of the atmosphere of trust and mutual understanding that is essential for it to be successful. With mutual good will it will be possible not just to reinforce the accords reached in Helsinki but also to agree on new steps in each section of the Concluding Act.

The realistic point of view concerning the development of European affairs is beginning to win supporters among Western political leaders. Evidence of this is seen in the results of L. I. Brezhnev's talks with French President V. Giscard d'Estaing and H. Schmidt, Federal Chancellor of the FRG. They reaffirmed their adherence to consistent implementation of the process begun by the all-European meeting, putting the principles and theses of the Concluding Act into effect, and bolstering trust in Europe. The governments of many other West European countries take a similar position, despite all the efforts of the U.S. administration and the NATO leadership to incline them to subvert detente.

Europe continues to be the stronghold of detente and an example of peaceful international cooperation for other regions of the world.

The 1970's were a time of constructive building in the international sphere. In the coming decade there is every objective opportunity to not only keep but also broaden the positive developments that have been attained through combined effort. This would benefit all humanity.

IV

One of the principal spheres of development of detente has been and remains supporting it with effective measures in the military field. It is essential to create an atmosphere of trust among nations and to lessen and overcome the tense military standoff. There must be a breakthrough in resolving the issues of limiting and halting the arms race, an advance toward real disarmament.

Through the joint efforts of the Soviet Union, the fraternal socialist countries and other states it has been possible to lay a strong foundation for working out mutually acceptable decisions that can reduce the level of the military standoff and reduce the colossal arsenals of weaponry. But militaristic forces have taken the path of spurring on the arms race; to cover their own intentions, which are hostile to the cause of peace, they have undertaken a propaganda campaign concerning supposed "dangerous disproportions" in the military field and the "increasing menace" of the Soviet Union. These falsifications are not new. Imperialist circles have always resorted to them when they needed to spur on their own military preparations.

Many respected experts recognize that that dominant feature of the global strategic situation is the equilibrium between the principal opposing forces. This balance has developed both at the highest strategic level, between the United States and the USSR, and in the region of direct contact between the forces of the Warsaw Pact nations and NATO in Europe. Soviet-American strategic parity was the basis of the SALT-I agreement and the SALT-II treaty, which reinforced the principles of equality and equal security. The approximate balance of forces between the Warsaw Pact and NATO on the European continent has been acknowledged by leaders in the Western countries. It should serve as the starting point for the Vienna talks on mutual reductions of arms and forces in Central Europe in conformity with the agreed-upon principle of not infringing on the security of either side.

The balance of forces that has come about in the crucial areas of the military standoff is maintained by the existence of mutually balanced material means of waging armed combat, above all nuclear missiles. An aggressor cannot avoid a devastating retaliatory blow.

The attempts of the United States and the other NATO countries to gain unilateral strategic advantages, of course, destabilizes this balance, fires up the arms race, and complicates the entire international situation. But they cannot fundamentally change the global strategic balance. If one side disrupts the balance, the other is capable, using its economic and scientific-technical potential, of nullifying the temporary and partial advantages gained by the first by building up its power. As a result the balance is restored at a higher level, at an enormous material cost and with an ultimate reduction in mutual security.

In light of these realities, the only reasonable solution that reflects the objective coincidence of interests of the parties is to maintain, not disturb, the global strategic balance. At the same time there must be mutual restraint in building up nuclear missile power and a consistent reduction in the level

of strategic parity, always insuring the equal security of the sides. This is the principal challenge of the negotiations and agreements on limitation of strategic arms.

The balance of military forces that has taken shape in Europe over the space of many years is inseparable from the general strategic balance. The roughly equal military might of the Warsaw Pact and NATO exists parallel with the Soviet-American strategic parity and to a large extent reinforces it. A disturbance of this parity could not help having a negative impact on the all-Europe balance of forces and, in turn, a disturbance of this balance could not help affecting the ratio of forces at the highest strategic level. Therefore, in addition to maintaining the Soviet-American strategic parity we must also preserve the established balance of forces on the European continent and move forward along the path of mutual reductions of armed forces and weaponry, taking effective steps toward military disarmament.

The harsh reality of the military standoff which confronts the USSR forces it to take the necessary steps to bolster its defense capability. But these steps have not and do not today exceed the minimum needed to insure our security and the security of our allies.

The level and orientation of the Soviet Union's military might are determined by Soviet military doctrine. An intention to threaten any other state or group of states is not and never has been held by the Soviet Union. Soviet military doctrine is profoundly defensive in nature. Its objectives are to protect our socialist achievements, the peaceful constructive labor of our people, and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Soviet state and of its allies. The defensive character of Soviet military doctrine is reflected in the resolutions of the 24th and 25th CPSU congresses and fixed in law by the Constitution of the USSR.

All the practical actions of the Soviet Union in the international arena are permeated with a concern for strengthening world peace. It was on Soviet initiative that the process of limiting the most dangerous weapons, strategic weapons, was begun. The Treaty on Limitation of Strategic Offensive Weapons (SALT-II) signed by the USSR and the United States in June 1979 was expected to play an important role in stabilizing the international situation. It expresses a carefully weighed balance of the interests of the two largest nuclear powers and is at the same time in the interests of all the world's peoples. Its ratification and implementation would open up new opportunities for significant quantitative reductions of nuclear missiles and qualitative limitations on such weapons.

Immediately after the signing of SALT-II, however, the United States began trying to discredit it. The opponents of strategic arms limitation made ratification of the document as difficult as they could, and the J. Carter administration decided to postpone review of the treaty in the Senate indefinitely.

The Soviet Union has advanced many initiatives to set in motion a system of multinational negotiations to restrain the arms race. With the active participation

of the USSR negotiations have begun on complete and universal banning of nuclear weapons testing, banning radiological weapons, and several other questions. The Soviet Union is trying to stop the production of nuclear weapons and gradually reduce stocks of these weapons until they are completely eliminated, while at the same time bolstering international legal and political guarantees by states that nuclear energy will be used only for peaceful purposes. The USSR is insisting on speedy completion of preparations for treaties and conventions that would put an end to the development, production, and stockpiling of chemical weapons, provide for destruction of existing stockpiles, and impose a ban on the development of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction.

In order to maintain the balance of military forces in Europe, the USSR has not built up its military might in this region in recent years. Instead it and its Warsaw Pact allies have advanced a full program to strengthen peace in Europe, covering all the main aspects of military detente on the continent, reduction of nuclear and conventional arms, and steps to increase mutual trust.

Attempting to prevent another round of the arms race and reduce the number of nuclear weapons on European soil, in October 1979 the Soviet Union announced, as a good will gesture, its readiness to unilaterally reduce the number of medium-range nuclear missiles deployed in the western oblasts of the USSR on the condition that additional medium-range nuclear weapons would not be located in Western Europe. At the same time the Soviet State proposed that negotiations begin immediately on reducing these nuclear missile systems deployed in Europe.

Earlier the USSR had expressed the idea of a relative withdrawal of Soviet and American ships capable of carrying nuclear weapons from the Mediterranean. The Soviet Union supported a plan proposed by Finland to turn Northern Europe into a non-nuclear zone.

The Warsaw Pact countries proposed that all states participating in the all-Europe meeting renounce the first-strike employment of both nuclear and conventional weapons against one another. In other words, the subject was really a non-aggression pact between the socialist states of Europe on the one hand and the European capitalist countries, the United States, and Canada on the other.

In order to stimulate a reduction in the levels of conventional arms and armed forces in Central Europe the Soviet Union, in agreement with its Warsaw Pact allies, unilaterally withdrew 20,000 Soviet servicemen, 1,000 tanks, and various other equipment from the GDR to the USSR.

Measures to bolster mutual trust would greatly promote military detente in Europe. The USSR and its allies have called on the Western countries to agree on a procedure for notification of military maneuvers, a temporary renunciation of such maneuvers involving more than 40,000-50,000 men, and advance notice to the other side not only of military exercises but also of movements of ground forces numbering more than 20,000 men. At the same time other proposals made earlier by the socialist countries concerning notice of large air force and naval maneuvers remain in effect.

The balance of military forces and the constructive positions of the USSR and many other states created a real opportunity in the late 1970's to start moving toward military detente. This did not happen. A favorable opportunity was lost. Competition in the military sphere was raised to a new level. And the responsibility for this falls to the United States and the NATO countries.

The obstacles heaped up against a softening of the military standoff were no accident. They follow directly from the dangerous tendency that began to appear more and more clearly in the policies of the United States and other NATO countries in the late 1970's. In December 1979, as already mentioned above, the session of the NATO Council adopted a decision on production and deployment in Western European countries of a new American medium-range nuclear missile designed for strategic purposes. Beginning in 1983 plans envision deploying about 600 Tomahawk cruise missiles and Pershing-2 ballistic missiles in the FRG, England, and several other Western European countries.

NATO circles are trying to pass off their plans for a more rapid build-up of the bloc's military might as a process of responding to the development of Soviet medium-range weapons. This argument deliberately distorts the true situation. In reality, the Soviet Union is only renovating medium-range nuclear missiles that have been adopted for several decades. This is entirely natural. In the last 10 years, however, the number of carriers of this weapon in the European USSR has not risen by a single missile or aircraft. There has even been a decrease in their number and in the power of their nuclear warheads.

But the deployment of Tomahawks and Pershing-2's on European soil is not a process of modernization; it is adding a qualitatively new component to the nuclear equation. The deployment of new American missiles in addition to existing forward-based U.S. weapons and corresponding weapons of Great Britain and France that are capable of reaching the USSR leads to a significant alteration and destabilization of the strategic situation in Europe, and elsewhere.

Thus, at the start of the 1980's the world situation has become more complicated, through the fault of the imperialists. But for this very reason military detente has become especially urgent. The arms race will not slow down, let alone stop, by itself. Vigorous and escalating efforts by all who value peace and firm resistance to the enemies of detente are needed. The worldwide threat of a nuclear disaster makes it necessary to mobilize all our forces to stop the deadly stockpiling of lethal weapons and to normalize the international atmosphere.

The main line of Soviet policy has been and remains the consistent struggle for military detente and limiting the arms race. The USSR and its allies have advanced a whole series of initiatives to set in motion a system of multinational negotiations to restrain the arms race. The Warsaw Pact states are proposing a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe. The conference can be an important milestone in strengthening the foundations of European and world peace.

In view of the close, organic intertwining of all aspects of the all-European process of insuring security and developing cooperation, it would be wise to carry out necessary consultation in advance so that the Madrid meeting of

representatives of the states that participated in the all-Europe meeting on security and cooperation can make practical decisions on calling a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe and can adopt an agenda for its first phase, concentrating efforts chiefly on working out broader measures to bolster mutual trust, and then move on to the issues of a real reduction in conventional and nuclear weapons. At the same time the socialist nations have expressed their willingness to study carefully any other proposals concerning the procedures and subjects of such a conference.

Effective steps to build trust and limit armed forces and weapons must be combined with political and treaty measures to reduce the danger of an outbreak of war and bolster the guarantees of security for the countries involved. This is the orientation of the proposal by the USSR and its allies that all the countries who participated in the all-Europe meeting conclude a treaty agreeing not to use either conventional or nuclear weapons first against any other state.

The Warsaw Pact countries are also calling for consolidation of the political and legal foundations of strict European compliance with the principle of not using or threatening to use force and for adoption of special measures to strengthen the guarantees given to non-nuclear nations in Europe. These steps could provide that the nuclear powers would never use nuclear weapons against those European countries, regardless of their participation in military alliances or nonalignment, which do not possess such weapons or have foreign nuclear weapons in their territory. These states also have a right to receive a guarantee that, in conformity with the principle of not using force or the threat of force, no other weapons will be used against them either.

The issue of reaching agreement on medium-range nuclear missiles is especially urgent. It would be best to begin negotiations on this issue on the basis proposed by the Soviet Union in the fall of 1979. This, of course, would require re-establishing the situation that existed before adoption of the December decision of the NATO Council. Thus, it would avert another dangerous intensification of the nuclear arms race in Europe and offer a possibility of maintaining the balance of military forces in Europe at a lower level.

At the same time, considering the NATO position and guided by the broad interests of peace and security the Soviet Union has proposed beginning discussion of the issue of medium-range nuclear missile together with the issue of American forward-based nuclear weapons. It is recognized here that possible accords on these issues can be realized in practice only after the SALT-II treaty goes into effect.

We cannot tolerate the fact that the Vienna talks on reducing arms and armed forces in Central Europe are being artificially dragged out. The socialist countries taking part in these negotiations have made a number of compromise proposals in the interests of merging positions. But the delegations from the NATO countries are not only preventing any progress; they have recently begun retreating from agreements reached earlier.

There is a critical need today for immediate steps to benefit the entire European situation. One such measure could be the step proposed in May 1980 by the Warsaw Pact nations: as a joint act of good will, agree that from a

certain agreed-upon date no state or group of states in Europe will increase the size of its armed forces in a region defined by the Concluding Act of the all-Europe meeting. This would be a tangible factor in strengthening stability and trust in Europe and would make it much easier to move toward military detente.

It is perfectly obvious that military detente cannot be limited to Central Europe alone. The time has come to begin serious work on steps toward military detente in other parts of the continent and in the Mediterranean region.

Europe is a region where military detente is feasible. But European security cannot be reliable until there is a breakthrough on the issues of limiting and halting the arms race, not just in Europe but worldwide. Peace in Europe could only be considered finally established if detente were spread to all other regions of the globe.

That is why the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact countries came forward with an important initiative in May 1980. They proposed that a summit meeting of state leaders from all regions of the world be held in the near future. The focus of attention for participants at the meeting should be the problem that agitates the peoples of Europe and all humanity, the problem of eliminating centers of tension and preventing war. Special attention must be concentrated on the issues of European security and preserving the peace in Europe.

Progress toward military detente demands a general normalization of the political atmosphere and a cessation of dangerous militaristic trends in the policies of the United States and the other imperialist nations. On the other hand, political detente itself needs to be stimulated and reinforced by steps to lessen the military standoff. Any serious step leading toward military detente would have a favorable influence on the state of political relations. The close interdependence and complementary nature of the political and military aspects of detente in the current situation are more important than ever before.

* * *

The wisdom and will of the world's peoples are mighty factors in world development today. The move away from the cold war toward peaceful cooperation was possible, ultimately, because it corresponded to the hopes of a large majority of the human race. Slipping back toward the dark times of confrontation is at cross purposes with these hopes. World public opinion and the broad masses of ordinary people are resolved to prevent the destruction of everything good that has been accomplished at the cost of such effort during the past decade.

As for the Soviet Union, its position is clear and principled. Overcoming the resistance of aggressive, militaristic forces, it consistently and persistently continues its struggle for stable peace, detente, and limiting the arms race.

As L. I. Brezhnev has stated: 'We pit against the 'doctrine' of war hysteria and a feverish arms race our doctrine of consistent struggle for peace and security on earth. We are loyal to the Program of Peace advanced by the 24th and 25th congresses of our party. In the 1980's, therefore, as in the 1970's also, we stand for strengthening detente, not destroying it. We stand for reducing arms,

not building them up. We stand for rapprochement and mutual understanding among peoples, not for unnatural alienation and hostility."

The entire course of world development makes detente and international cooperation feasible. No matter how the enemies of peace may complicate the situation, they cannot turn history back. The positive changes have put down deep roots. Relying on them, we can and must blaze the trail to stable peace and reliable security for the world's peoples.

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DOSAAB: TRAINING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

In the Belorussian SSR

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 22 Jun 80 p 2

[Article by P. Maksimov, deputy chairman of the Belorussian SSR DOSAAF Central Committee: "The Main Incentive"]

[Text] Putting Lenin's precepts into practice means first and foremost concrete acts today and creative work in every area, in every post. Always and everywhere being mindful of this, Belorussian DOSAAF personnel are successfully accomplishing the great and responsible tasks which the party and the government are assigning the defense society.

Preparing for the Lenin Anniversary, the Belorussian defense society has grown and become firmly established; it has significantly increased efficiency and improved work quality. Just last year 270 thousand persons were admitted as DOSAAF members. There are over 13,500 primary organizations of the society, incorporating more than four million members. This amounts to 92% of Belorussia's working population. Two years ago only 86% of Belorussia's adult population were DOSAAF members. Today there isn't a single labor collective that lacks a primary DOSAAF organization. All Komsomol members in Belorussia are members of the defense society. In over two-thirds of the primary organizations, technical sports clubs or military-technical groups and sports sections have been formed.

During the course of preparing for the Lenin Anniversary, DOSAAF training organizations and technical sports clubs in Belorussia more than fulfilled the obligations they had undertaken in preparing specialists for the USSR Armed Forces and for the national economy. The quality of their training improved significantly.

The campaign for hearing reports and electing officials played an important role in further consolidating the Belorussian DOSAAF organizations, and in improving the quality and efficiency of defense work. It is gratifying to note that, during the report rendering and election of officials, the composition of representatives to city and rayon DOSAAF committees improved appreciably. Today almost 98% of them are communists or Komsomol members; they all have secondary or higher education. The same is true for the lower level DOSAAF collectives.

A powerful incentive for our movement forward is socialist competition. Publicity, comparability of results, and the opportunity to recapitulate progressive methods are constantly within the field of vision of the Belorussian DOSAAF Central Committee. Its workers can regularly be found in the outlying areas, where, as the saying goes, they keep a handle on what's going on in lower level committee life, and provide them direct assistance.

The results of work done "at ground level" are being brought up at plenum and conference discussions of the Belorussian DOSAAF Central Committee. Just in recent months directors' reports from the Minsk and Grodzenskiy DOSAAF obkoms have been heard, on the state of affairs in implementing the decisions of the Eighth All-Union DOSAAF Congress. The same is true for the Gomel'skiy DOSAAF obkom director's report, on how obligations are being fulfilled with respect to augmenting DOSAAF ranks. Other important matters were discussed as well. Lively conversation, businesslike and comradely criticism--all of this helps to better discern the deficiencies in this work as well as the achievements.

At an extended February session of the Presidium of the Belorussian DOSAAF Central Committee, and with the active membership participating, results of last year's competition were summed up. They had been discussed thoroughly in advance with obkom representatives. Following this, a special table was drawn up, from which one could see those areas of the mass defense effort where the oblast organization achieved the greatest success, and those areas where something was overlooked. This method of summing up socialist competition results seems most sound and most objective to us when everything depends on the work results, and not on who is doing the summing-up and in what manner.

The Vitebskaya Oblast DOSAAF organization was acknowledged the winner. It was the first time it had achieved such success. Only a few years ago this organization was lagging behind in literally all areas. The Belorussian DOSAAF Central Committee could not tolerate this situation. The DOSAAF organization received additional personnel, and other assistance was provided. Forming a creative, businesslike atmosphere at the lower level DOSAAF collectives and expanding competition helped uncover additional reserves.

Receiving support, and exercising initiative and sparkling energy, those who head the city and rayon committees and DOSAAF training organizations started putting some zest into their work everywhere. Results were not long showing. The oblast DOSAAF organization moved up: third place, second place--finally first place in the republic!

Vitebsk DOSAAF personnel got some especially productive work accomplished on the eve of the Lenin Anniversary. Through results achieved last year they took first place in training specialists for the armed forces, and in basic training. They were rated best in other areas of mass defense work as well.

Over the days spent in preparing for the Lenin Anniversary, the Vitebsk Oblast organization continued to achieve new successes, and to consolidate what they had achieved. For example, there was an active month-long campaign of mass defense work dedicated to the 62nd anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces. Competition during the noteworthy coincidence of the 110th anniversary of Lenin's birthday and the 35th anniversary of Victory Day took place with a great deal of enthusiasm. Vitebsk DOSAAF personnel have every chance of achieving great results this year as well--the final year of the 10th Five-Year Plan.

While rendering the leaders their just due, the Belorussian DOSAAF Central Committee cannot disregard those who are still not working as hard as they can, those who don't make that extra effort. The Gomel'skaya Oblast DOSAAF organization, for example, has spent a great deal of time without making any headway--and to think--there was a time when it was one of the best. One would like to wish the obkom directors the

ability to see what's important, to move along the main avenues of defense work with more purposefulness, to rely more fearlessly on the active membership, to confide more in their comrades who are in the outlying areas and to hold them responsible.

The Grodnenskiy DOSAAF obkom is among the "outsiders." While achieving some degree of success in certain areas of mass defense work, committee workers have been allowing errors and slip-ups in settling a number of other issues. For example, they make a habit here of not meeting their commitments in training drivers for the national economy--and last year was no exception.

The Gomel'skaya and Minsk Oblast DOSAAF organizations have been seriously neglectful in training specialists for the armed forces. They're in fifth and sixth place respectively for this reason. Right alongside progressive schools here are backward educational organizations, whose equipment fails to meet contemporary needs that have arisen. This has led to a situation where the Belorussian DOSAAF organization--which not long ago at all was rated first in the country in training army and navy specialists--must now be content with just fifth.

Several educational organizations that rested on their laurels for what they had achieved have stopped improving their educational-material base; they're not renewing it, they're not expanding it. Up until now not a single educational organization has dormitory facilities for its kursants, while such facilities have been built in other republics.

Just as they are easily able to see their achievements, Belorussian DOSAAF personnel can see their deficiencies, and they are doing everything they can to eliminate them. In this final year of the 10th Five-Year Plan, we will do everything to achieve new successes in mass defense and military-patriotic work, and in the training of working people--especially youth--for the defense of the homeland.

In the Uzbek SSR

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 21 May 80 p 2

[Article by V. Pustovalov, sector manager of the department of administrative organs of the Central Committee of the Uzbekistan Communist Party: "Party Exactingness"]

[Text] It might be good to immediately begin conversation on an important topic with specific examples and citations. Prior to 1976, DOSAAF personnel of the Almalyk'skiy Order of Lenin, Order of the Red Banner of Labor Mining and Metallurgical Combine didn't distinguish themselves particularly in anything. By all outward appearances everything was going along in more or less normal fashion. Meetings and conferences for report-rendering and electing officials were being conducted at the prescribed times and with the required quorums; work plans were being developed and approved; membership dues were being collected on time; DOSAAF lottery tickets were being distributed the right way.

Of course, this kind of ample attention, this kind of party concern, could not help but yield good results. Whereas in 1976 only 14 shop organizations were functioning--in which there were 4,228 DOSAAF members--today there are already 30 of them, with over 10 thousand who belong. All the Komsomol members of the combine are members of the defense society.

Technical training is coming along fine at the combine. In their technical sports club, 182 metallurgists last year successfully mastered the occupation of driver, heavy-load-capacity vehicles; 180 achieved proficiency as tractor and bulldozer operators; 185--diesel locomotive engineers and steam shovel operators. And to think that the combine used to have an acute shortage in these technical specialties.

Military-patriotic work is also being successfully carried out today at the combine. Thematic, defense-oriented gatherings often take place, as do meetings with party and war veterans, with Heroes of the Soviet Union and Heroes of Socialist Labor. Almost all of the younger working people are involved in varieties of military-technical sport. Just lately, for example, 20 different kinds of sports events were held, in which over two thousand young men and women took part.

There is some interesting and diversified work going on in the primary DOSAAF organization of Tashkent State University imeni V.I. Lenin: military-patriotic work, mass defense and sports work. Just last year the student body heard over two thousand lectures, reports and discussions; 127 contests in military-technical varieties of sport were held, in which over five thousand students participated. Eighteen military-technical groups and clubs are in regular operation at the university.

Keeping in mind that the level of activity of every DOSAAF organization directly depends on the accomplishments, the organizational capabilities, and the activity level of DOSAAF workers, party committees are devoting a lot of attention to selection, placement and education of personnel. Today the majority of centers for mass defense work are headed by well-trained, ideologically-hardened people, who spare neither the effort nor the time to accomplish the tasks facing the defense society.

Communists head the overwhelming majority of educational and sports organizations, and their number is increasing among teachers, training experts, and coaches.

Today in Uzbekistan a well-formulated system of training DOSAAF personnel has been established. In most oblasts, especially in Ferganskaya, Bukharskaya, Namanganskaya, and Tashkent Oblasts, meetings and seminars are conducted with the progressive DOSAAF organizations as a base. Here there's the opportunity to--as the saying goes--come up with results, not just talk.

On many occasions matters dealing with the activities of the Uzbekistan DOSAAF organization have been the subject of discussion in the republic's Communist Party Central Committee. Such matters are always within the field of vision of Comrade Sh. Rashidov, candidate member of the Politburo, CPSU Central Committee, and First Secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee. His recommendation prompted a thorough Russian language study program being established in the DOSAAF educational organizations for students who haven't mastered Russian. The classes devote particular attention to military vocabulary and terminology, and to expanding the Russian vocabulary of Uzbek students.

In recent years DOSAAF organizations have been successfully accomplishing the mission of training technical specialists for the national economy. Such work is coming along well in Dzhirgatal'skaya Oblast, especially in the Mirzachul'skiy and Pakhtakor'skiy technical sports clubs, in the primary organizations of the sovkhoz imeni Akhunbabayev, in the Oktyabr'skiy Rayon, and the "Udarnik" sovkhoz in the Zhaminskii Rayon.

There's a lot of interesting work going on in the primary organization of the kolkhoz imeni V.I. Lenin in the Shafirkanakiy Rayon of Bukharskaya Oblast. The necessary base has been established here for conducting defense-sports work; there's a technical sports club that has four equipped technical classrooms, a 50-meter firing range, a weapons storage room, an automobile and motorcycle course, and a military obstacle course. There are constantly over 400 young men and women using the sports facilities.

Yes--in order to further improve village work, a high-quality, educational-material base and sports base is necessary. Such a base is now being formed in Uzbekistan at a feverish pace, under the leadership of party organs, and with the help of soviet bodies. Building construction for educational organizations is nearing completion in the Khodzhaadabakiy, Moskovakiy and Kurganterpinskiy rayons of Andizhanskaya Oblast; military-technical training centers are being constructed in the Bagdadskiy and Akhunbabaevakiy Rayons of the Ferganskaya Oblast, in the cities of Beshkent and Dekhkanadab (Kashkadar'inskaya Oblast), and aquatic sports centers are being built on the Syrdar'ya River, on the Kattakurganskoye reservoir (Samarkand Oblast), and on Lake Uch-Kizil (Surkhandar'inskaya Oblast).

Certainly it is pleasant to talk about positive facts and figures. But we must not rest content with what has been achieved, or flatter ourselves with our successes. First and foremost it might be pointed out that still not all DOSAAF committees and organizations in Uzbekistan are making effective use of certain opportunities in solving the problems related to forming an educational-material and technical sports base. These are opportunities that have been afforded them by the well-known 7 May 1966 resolution of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers; also by the corresponding resolution of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan Central Committee, and the Uzbekistan Council of Ministers. In many rayon organizations, technical sports clubs still haven't been formed, and some of those that do exist don't meet contemporary requirements.

The practice of unified planning of military-patriotic work in DOSAAF and all other organizations still hasn't come into widespread use. Particularly annoying is the fact that several DOSAAF committees are devoting the lion's share of their time and attention to conducting rayon, city, and oblast-level affairs; they sometimes organize defense work in the primary organizations quite poorly, and spontaneously.

These and other deficiencies were subject to sharp criticism and detailed analysis during the meetings and conferences held to render reports and elect officials for the DOSAAF organizations. The party organs see the job that lies ahead--they must constantly increase the personal responsibility of committee heads, primarily those who are communists, in insuring successful implementation of the decisions of the All-Union Congress of the defense society, and of the critical observations and suggestions voiced at meetings and conferences.

In the Kazakh SSR

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 27 Jul 80 p 2

[Article: "Improving Work With Personnel and With the Society's Active Membership"]

[Text] The Presidium of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee discussed what is happening with regard to implementing the resolution of the Third Plenum of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee by DOSAAF organizations in the Kazakh SSR. The resolution is entitled: The Present State of Work With Personnel and the Society's Active Membership in DOSAAF Organizations, and Measures to Improve it."

It was noted that, in meeting requirements of the 25th CPSU Congress, the decisions of the Eighth All-Union (USSR) Congress of the Defense Society (DOSAAF), and of the Third Plenum of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee--under the leadership of party and soviet bodies--the Kazakh DOSAAF organization is conducting specific organizational work in selection, placement, training and education of personnel and of the society's active membership. All of this contributes toward qualitative improvement of the composition of those in managerial positions. Currently, all DOSAAF obkom chairmen in the Kazakh SSR are communists, and have secondary or higher specialized education. Every other one has been working in his position five years or more. The number of party members among chairmen of rayon and city committees, and of primary organizations, has increased. Most of them have a sound general education, and many have graduated from an army educational institution.

Kazakh SSR DOSAAF committees have utilized the campaign for report-rendering and election of officials to augment the ranks of the society's active membership. In recent years, membership has increased by 40 thousand. One hundred and eighty thousand activists of the defense society have been elected to DOSAAF leadership bodies. It is a positive sign that, based on progressive-minded organizations, gatherings, seminars, and teaching methodology conferences, are being attended by the personnel and the society's active membership. Lately, over 250 regular workers of all kinds underwent additional training through central and regional DOSAAF courses.

At the same time, the work standard of the personnel of the Kazakh central and oblast central committees still doesn't fully meet contemporary needs. Issues regarding work with personnel and the society's active membership are seldom considered at buro or presidium sessions, or at committee plenums of the defense society.

There have been cases where personnel have not been adequately checked out, where employees are recommended to such posts as committee chairman, or as head of an educational or sports organization, but who lack the necessary business and moral qualities.

Problems regarding the strengthening of labor discipline and reducing personnel fluctuation are not being handled efficiently enough in DOSAAF organizations of the Semipalatinskaya and Chingkentskaya Oblasts.

In certain Kazakhstan organizations social principles are taking root slowly in all sections of the defense society. Organizational defects exist in active membership training.

The DOSAAF Central Committee and other such committees in the Kazakh SSR are still inadequately monitoring compliance with instructions and directives of higher bodies, as well as their own decisions.

Deficiencies in the selection, training and education of personnel and the society's active membership, and defects in the work style of DOSAAF committees have been degrading the quality and lowering the efficiency of the practical activities of the republic's defense organization to a significant degree.

It is suggested that the DOSAAF Central Committee of the Kazakh SSR eliminate the above-mentioned deficiencies, that it develop and implement additional measures to further improve the selection, placement, training and education of personnel and the society's active membership, in accordance with requirements of the Eighth All-Union Congress of the defense society and the Third Plenum of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee.

It must be constantly seen to that all areas of DOSAAF activity are headed by directors who intrinsically possess a combination of party spirit with high competence, discipline with initiative and a creative approach to getting the job done.

It is proposed that the DOSAAF Central Committee and the oblast committees of the Kazakh SSR expand the role of collegium bodies in working with personnel and the active membership, that they discuss these matters, and that they generalize and disseminate progressive methods.

It is recommended that the DOSAAF Central Committee and the oblast committees of Kazakhstan perfect their work in ideological-theoretical training of DOSAAF personnel and of the society's active membership. They should provide for the systematic and thorough study of Marxist-Leninist theory, of the works of V.I. Lenin, and those of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and President of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and of party and government documents. The Marxist-Leninist education of personnel and active society membership must be closely linked with the practical accomplishment of tasks set before the defense society by the Communist Party and the Soviet government.

It is proposed that concrete measures be taken to improve the selection of chairmen for rayon and city DOSAAF committees, that the most active, trained and prepared workers be nominated to these posts, workers who have graduated from an army educational institution, and who are capable of being real organizers of mass defense work. Committees of the defense society should insure complete staffing of DOSAAF educational and sports organizations in the republic with graduates of secondary level and higher specialized education.

Effective measures should be taken to get rid of the factors that give rise to personnel fluctuation. Serious attention should be paid to forming an active reserve--to improve the selection, training and education of committee deputy chairmen, and heads of educational organizations. The effectiveness of work with personnel and active membership should be evaluated according to the concrete results of practical activities of society organizations. DOSAAF committees in the Kazakh SSR should continue to instill systematic and purposeful social principles into all DOSAAF elements; they should increase the level of organization for training the society's active membership, utilizing theory conferences here, teaching methodology meetings, a variety of ways to share experiences, instructional methods, and conferences.

The DOSAAF Central Committee and Kazakh SSR oblast committees should strive to achieve greater accuracy in work planning; they should become better organized, and more responsible in all aspects of management. They must vigorously intensify their monitoring and compliance procedures with respect to party and government directives, and the instructions of higher DOSAAF organizations as well as their own decisions. They should take effective measures to improve the state of accounts and bookkeeping in DOSAAF organizations.

The Presidium of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee proposed to the DOSAAF Central Committees of the union republics, and to kray and oblast committees, that they conduct a comprehensive work analysis with regard to implementing the requirements of the Eighth All-Union Congress of the defense society, and the Third Plenum of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee, on "The State of Work With Personnel and the Society's Active Membership in DOSAAF Organizations and Measures to Improve It." It was proposed that these committees, under the leadership of party and soviet bodies, and with the active interaction of union, Komsomol and other organizations, work persistently towards perfecting organizational and political work in further improving the quality of personnel and the society's active membership--towards expanding their role in satisfactorily accomplishing the tasks that face the defense society.

9768

CSO: 1801

DOSAAF: CONSTRUCTION OF TRAINING FACILITIES LAGS

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 12 Nov 80 p 1

[Article by V. Vlasov, Alma-Ata: "Regularity, Regularity--Supervision Over DOSAAF Construction Projects"]

[Text] At the last regular plenum of Kazakhstan's DOSAAF Central Committee a great deal of attention was devoted to the matter of building up the materials and equipment base and to capital construction matters. During the years of the 10th Five-Year Plan subcontracting organizations have applied around 1.5 million rubles from centralized sources at construction sites of the republic's defense society. They placed into use technical school buildings in Gur'yev and Ust'-Kamenogorsk, a military technical training center in the city of Shevchenko and a firing facility in Alma-Ata.

There are still a great many uncompleted tasks in capital construction, however. Precisely these tasks were discussed in the report delivered by B. Baytasov, chairman of the republic's DOSAAF Central Committee, and in the speeches of plenum participants.

Only slightly more than half of 2.785 million rubles allocated for capital investment has been applied. Construction and installation jobs are proceeding very slowly and irregularly at dormitories under construction for DOSAAF training organizations in Kzyl-Orda, Gur'yev and Alma-Ata.

In their analysis of the state of affairs at DOSAAF sites the speaker and those taking part in the discussions made special mention of the lagging construction of the DOSAAF technical school in Tselinograd.

Construction started there in April of 1975. Under the contract the building was to have been placed into operation in 1976. The end of construction is still not in sight, however. The reasons? A lack of regularity, systematic failure to perform the specified volumes of construction and installation work, poor labor organization, frequent transfers of workers to other projects, and tardy deliveries of materials.

We can hardly talk about speed, for example, if in 1977 only 2,500 rubles, or slightly more than one percent, of the 240,000 rubles allocated was actually applied. During the first three-quarters of this year the builders completed only

one-fourth of the work scheduled for the entire year. There were major deviations from the plan in the construction work.

B. Baytasov's report stressed the fact that obkom workers had not been properly persistent or demanded enough of the contractors and have failed to help correct the situation.

When construction was begun on the DOSAAF technical school the Tselinograd Oblast Committee of the Kazakhstan Komsomol declared it a Komsomol shock construction project. The necessary organizational work was not performed, however, and the sponsoring Komsomol members have yet to provide effective assistance.

Planning estimate documents have a great deal to do with the quality and the flow of construction. These are the clearance papers for a project. Despite this, Kazakhstan's DOSAAF organizations devote considerably less attention to matters of planning than these warrant. This gives rise to frequent errors in the selection of sites for the construction of facilities and to delays in the submission of base data and planning assignments to the designers.

The "Karagandagorsel'proyekt" institute worked out the planning estimate documentation for construction of the technical school. The clients, however, forgot to check or to give even elementary attention to the project submitted to the designers. The institute then created a design which did not conform to regulations governing political-indoctrinational work in DOSAAF training organizations. As was to be expected, the appraisal commission failed to conclude, on technical grounds, that construction of the project by this plan would not be feasible.

Right now, when there is little time remaining to the end of the year, not just every day but every hour is valuable. We can therefore not accept the fact that time is being lost at priority facilities in Gur'yev and Kzyl'-Orda or that the equipment is not being utilized at full capacity.

The plenum of the Kazakhstan DOSAAF Central Committee has appealed to the collectives to develop socialist competition for a fitting reception for the 26th CPSU Congress, to consistently adopt advanced know-how in the work organization at projects under construction and to take advantage of every possibility for successfully completing work on the priority projects in the time remaining this year.

A. Shalov, director of the Department of Administrative Agencies of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee, took part in the plenum.

11499

CSO: 1801

NAVAL FORCES: TRAINING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

On the 'Rativyy'

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 5, Mar 80 pp 9-12

[Report by our special correspondents Eng-Lt Col V. Chepiga and I. Kurashov from the Red Banner Pacific Fleet: "The Red Alarm Light"]

[Excerpts] The following is an account of a long-awaited departure on a cruise... about how a report "...an 'enemy' submarine has been detected in this sector" brought out heretofore latent energy in the men and the machinery; about the ensuing duel of the minds, the knowledge and the wills of the men who are the masters of the modern weapons; and finally, about how we, along with Seaman Soldatov and his fighting comrades, were gladdened by the difficult victory. In short, we would like to describe that shiny hour in the life of a ship for which both the ship and its crew exist. Until that time, however, we shall continue getting to know the ship and those who run it.

Outwardly, Senior Lieutenant Sergey Shishkin has no special distinguishing features, but nonetheless one has the impression he has known the individual for a long time. Is it perhaps from photographs of Russian sailors of the era of the "Varyag," "Novik" and "Aurora"? No, the senior lieutenant looks perhaps more like the commanders of the Great Patriotic War, especially when he puts on the humble work jacket with its prewar cut, which has withstood all the vicissitudes of fashion, especially in the military uniform.

In general, Shishkin's has a very naval quality to it, which is further enhanced when you learn about his interests (sloop-racing, for example), notice his bearing and learn that he is from a family of professional sailors. It is not surprising that the BCh-3 [mine and torpedo division] commanded by Senior Lieutenant Shishkin is one of the best departments on the ship.

And there is actually a similarity between Sergey Sergeyevich and his men. The same sort of guarded strength, dignity and calmness, for example, is evident in Senior Seaman Vladimir Bogdanov, a compartment commander. In the mine and torpedo division Bogdanov is in charge of the antisubmarine-mortar laying station.

Senior Seaman Aleksandr Naber, efficient and an expert in his job, is in charge of the torpedo-tube training compartment and station. The seamen must be quick and accurate in applying the data which insures reliable functioning of the equipment. And there has never been a case in which they have let down Lieutenant Sergey Kopeykin, commander of the ASW weapons control unit.

Sonar operator... This specialty has one special feature: In addition to knowledge and skill, it also requires special natural abilities, even talent. This is why the sonar operators on board the ship receive so much attention and respect.

Senior Seaman Sergey Dubrov, a specialist first class and one of the best sonar operators, is soon to retire. Everyone is aware of this and they inquire almost on a daily basis about how his replacement, Seaman Aleksandr Pekhterev, is coming along in his training. Are they all trying to follow in the footsteps of Nikolay Mishchuk?

Nikolay Mishchuk, retired as the ship's chief petty officer a few years ago, but his motto still lives and evokes feeling among the seamen. It was the following: "Service the equipment at the level of a master and train yourself a replacement with a first-class rating." Such a commitment requires persistence in striving for the goal, teamwork and...courage. Dubrov and Pekhterev possess these qualities. You think about this when you watch them at work.

The music of the depths and the chorus of underwater voices are spellbinding. One must not give in to them, but must be able to isolate the single important "soloist," to identify it. The voices become visual stimuli on the sonar screen. The blips and bursts in the sweep tell the specialists the direction to the target and many other things known only to them.

Lieutenant Aleksandr Sorokodumov, commander of the sonar group, arrives at the station with an anxious look on his face. Just at this moment the profound silence of the sonar station is broken by the loud clanging of bells. The red alarm light flashes on. The command "Ready ship for combat and cruising!" is heard over the intercom.

The commander of the "enemy" submarine is very familiar with the intricate hydrology of the area and takes skillful advantage of the complex conditions in the search sector to carry out a concealed maneuver. Airborne reconnaissance has ascertained this after covering many square miles of water, even before the "Retivyy" has cast off from the buoy and entered the open water.

Captain 2d Rank Yuriy Maksimovich Rychkov, commander of the SKR [patrol vessel], and all the crew members have been assigned the difficult mission of making contact with the submarine and effectively attacking it despite all the "enemy's" ruses.

Finally, the needed aerial reconnaissance information is received, and "Retivyy" speeds the search (there is an exact replica of the ship in the wardroom: It is the embodiment of speed from the keel to the truck). In situations

like this people usually write that the ship's combat divisions and services performed at maximum effort. This is not what we see on the "Retivyy." Every individual performs his job calmly, confidently and reliably. With respect to tension, it is felt deep inside each individual, of course, but there is only a single hint of it during the operation, in a slightly too-elated report by the sonar operators: "We have contact"! Yuriy Maksimovich, who ordinarily issues all commands through the watch officer, responds by uttering dryly into the microphone: "Sonarmen, verify data."

No, everything is done correctly. The submarine stays solidly "hooked." All things behave exactly the same in such situations: They dash about frantically in an attempt to break the line. The submarine tries to move abruptly out of sonar range, but the distance separating it and the ship grows smaller. And now the long-awaited: "Torpedo tubes, standby!"

There is something awesome in the silent movement of a torpedo, in its relentless rush toward the target. This time, the torpedo only indicates a direct hit and then disappears into the depth, without harming anyone. Had it been a real enemy, however, he would not have fared so well!

The ship is once more secured to the pier. We bid farewell to the "Retivyy." We are accompanied only by the watch officer, but we feel the presence of all those with whom we became acquainted and made friends on the ship. We can see their faces--smiling and serious, calm and anxious, faces illuminated by the light reflected off the screens and by the red alarm light.

Submarine Rescue

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 9, May 80 p 26

[Article, Red Banner Northern Fleet: "We Are Going Down"]

[Text] The alarm sounds and we depart in the pale polar dawn. These alarms are nothing out of the ordinary for submarine rescue personnel. This is their job--to rush to the aid of those involved in a disaster at sea.

Today's departure is for just such a mission. A submarine has had an "accident" at sea. The mission of the submarine rescue personnel--to find the submarine and bring the people to the surface.

In order to depict a more complete picture of the exercise and to illustrate its difficulty, our report will be given from three sites: the submarine rescue vessel, an escape bell and the submarine.

On Board the Submarine

A light, not entirely accustomed jolt grips the submarine and the entire hull shudders.

"We are on the bottom. Inspect the compartments...."

Under the conditions of the exercise the submarine has suffered damage to the ballast tank, the conning tower superstructure....

At the commander's order the emergency buoy is prepared to operate. It soon rises toward the surface....

We know that today's exercise is only a matter of improving our teamwork in the common job, only a drill. Everything would be far more complicated in an actual emergency. Do you recall what Hero of the Soviet Union Shchedrin wrote about the difficult test falling to the lot of submariners on the "S-56" in one battle?

"It is becoming increasingly difficult to breathe. Our breathing is labored. There is a pounding in the temples, and our heads seem filled with lead. It is difficult to move, and we do not feel like moving at all. We notice that all of us have unnaturally red faces. Lethargy is setting in. A sort of stolid indifference even to the exploding of bombs.... This is how carbon dioxide affects one...."

The North Sea submariners withstood the test--constant bombings, the long stay on the bottom and the shortage of air. Their fervent love for the homeland and indomitable hatred for the enemy gave them courage and strength. They fulfilled their duty. The new generation of submariners take their example from those heroes of the icy polar depths. And if we are put to the same sort of test, we shall not flinch.

Our commander frequently says that no one is born without fear. And each of us has become convinced of this by our own experience. I recall the first time I crawled through a torpedo tube at a training station. I experienced a sort of numbness when they shut me up in the steel tube.

I grew accustomed to it. I even began to find such exercises boring. The commander apparently noticed this, however. He began to create situations in the drills, which were not child's play. Both the novice and the seasoned specialist--everyone had to hustle.

The submarine rescue workers have the main responsibility in today's exercise. Our mission is to wait, to remain steadfast and calm.

On Board the Rescue Vessel

The emergency buoy rocks on the surface not far from the vessel. The sonarmen have done their job well! They have guided the vessel right to the spot.

The next stage of the rescue operation involves bringing the rescue vessel over the submarine. Great precision is essential.

The commander and the navigating officer lean over a map. They need to secure the vessel above the site of the "accident." How can they save time in order to assist the submarine crew as rapidly as possible? Whether the basic norm is met and in the final analysis, whether the training mission is completed, will depend greatly upon the answer to this question.

The joint efforts produce a solution. It contains elements of creativity and innovation.

On Board the Submarine

We have been on the bottom for several hours now. Hypothetical problems come to us one after another from the control room. Now there is a "hole" in a spot which can barely be reached, now a "malfunction" develops in the machinery....

I look at Petty Officer Second Class V. Rodya. He wipes the sweat off his brow with a tired motion. He should be tired—he has bettered the norm by half.

The submarine commander comes onto the intercom: "The rescue workers are now above us. The most difficult part of the exercise lies ahead, however. We cannot relax our effort. We have to make a hammer of our will."

On Board the Rescue Vessel

...The bright-red crown of the signal buoy touches the side of the ship. The commander glances at his watch with satisfaction: The vessel is in place, and with time to spare.

Direct contact has been made with the damaged submarine. And on board the rescue vessel preparations have been completed for lowering an observation chamber. Warrant Officer M. Kalinichuk will operate it. He is one of the most experienced deep-sea divers. He has spent a total of several thousand hours in the depths. The warrant officer has to ascertain the exact position of the submarine hull and determine how accurately the rescue ship has maneuvered onto the exact spot of the "accident" and whether everything is ready to receive the rescue bell.

The oblong shape of the chamber slips cautiously into the water and starts down.

"I see the submarine," Kalinichuk reports. "I am near... compartment."

Deep-sea divers are being briefed on the poop deck. The first team of divers, which is to attach the cable of the rescue bell to the hull of the submarine, is made up of Lieutenant I. Panov and Senior Seaman A. Zinov'yev. Both are seasoned specialists and have more than once performed this type of job under water.

Their comrades helped to don the diving gear. The divers are inspected and the equipment checked for the last time, they are given a parting slap on the gleaming helmet... and the divers take their place in the lowering sling. It will take them down to the diving bell, already in the water. Seated on its platform they will be lowered to the submarine....

On Board the Submarine

Blows on the hull are clearly audible--the divers have arrived. We can expect to be visited by the rescue workers soon. The machinery has been rechecked. Everything is ready.

A battle leaflet has been put up on the bulkhead by Petty Officer Second Class S. Zarubin and Senior Seaman K. Nugmanov. They have listed the names of those who have excelled in the exercise: Petty Officer Second Class V. Rodya, chief of the ballast tanks division; Senior Seaman N. Providov, torpedoman; and young Seaman K. Nagoyev, sonarman. The activists have appealed to the submariners to perform competently, calmly and carefully in the last stage of the exercise.

In the Rescue Bell

The arrow of the depth-gage counts off the meters. Stop! We have arrived.

The submarine lies at a slight list. It is not such an easy matter to link up to it in this position. My comrade Cherepovich performs smoothly, however. One senses his good training. I work the valves on the flotation tank. Everything is going according to plan.

"Request permission to link up to submarine!"

"Permission granted!" is the answer received.

There is a slight jolt--we have reached the submarine hull. We begin pumping water out of the antechamber. The long-awaited moment has now arrived--the hatch cover is opened. The first "rescued" submariner passes through the opening.

The first group of sailors take their place in the rescue bell.

On Board the Rescue Vessel

The bell emerges at the surface. The electric motors of the winches begin their smooth humming, and the diving bell begins to rise toward the deck.

...A few minutes later, like brothers, the rescuers and the submariners are sharing a pack of "Belomors," saved especially for such a moment. They sit and rest as they remove the gear used in the just-ended exercise. I think to myself: "There is such a powerful feeling of fraternity among sailors. How good it is for every naval specialist to be able to perform his job expertly!"

This report was produced by the following:

From on board the submarine--Petty Officer Second Class Ye. Makhan'ko, specialist first class sonarman;

From inside the rescue bell--Warrant Officer P. Vasilenko, chief of the team manning the deep-sea diving units;

From on board the rescue ship--Lieutenant A. Veledeyev.

ASW on the 'Druzhnyy'

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 13, Jul 80 pp 4-5

[Article by Sr Lt S. Cheypesh, Twice Red-Banner Baltic Fleet: "The 'Druzhnyy' Is Attacking"]

[Text] The patrol ship had set out to sea as part of a hunter-killer group.

The chief of the sonar team assessed the hydrological conditions. Just as the officer suspected, the mission would be performed in adverse conditions. And this would create additional difficulties in the work.

Petty Officer Second Class V. Guzenko, specialist first class and commander of the excellent sonar section, and Seamen V. Yeroshenko and I. Biletin take over the watch. Patches of interference flare up and fade away on the sonar screen, and a continuous crackling comes through the headsets. Tack after tack the patrol vessel "Druzhnyy" combs the area, but the target is not to be found.

The sonarmen are calm, engrossed in their work. The operators skillfully tune out the interference. The minutes of the search go by slowly.

The tactical plan for the search for the "enemy" submarine calls for a combination of various forces: ASW ships and aircraft. The officer soon reports to the commander of the hunter-killer group that a barrier of sono-buoys has been erected in the predicted area of the submarine's breakthrough by an aircraft crew, among the members of which is officer G. Seredin, a communist.

This is not the first time the ASW sailors and the airmen have worked together. Smooth interaction has been worked out among the crews. Speedy and accurate information has always insured success in a training battle.

The first contact with the submarine is made by Seaman V. Shatorvskiy. From barely perceptible characteristics he has been able to isolate the target from the background of interference. The submarine has been maneuvering and creating interference in an attempt to escape pursuit, but the ships in the hunter-killer group and the aircraft have it firmly in the grips of electronic claws.

The ASW crew have put their complex chain into action as soon as the contact was classified.

When pursuit of the submarine is in full swing a radar operator in the ASW group reports on an unidentified air target. The "enemy" has decided to attack the ASW vessels with aircraft, but the crew of the "Druzhnyy" is alert.

Without delay Senior Lieutenant A. Kashich's men, petty officers second class V. Sushko and S. Buziyan, ready the guns to open fire. The artillery radar operators headed by Petty Officer First Class V. Parkhayev considerably reduce the normal time required. As soon as the target comes within the range the battery commander opens fire on the air "enemy."

In the meantime the sonar operators on the "Druzhnyy" continue their duel with the "enemy" submarine. The navigating officer and the BIP [combat information center] crew skillfully analyze the situation and promptly report the maneuvers required to the ship's commander.

After appraising the tactical situation the commander decides to carry out a combined attack on the "enemy" submarine.

BCh-3 [mine and torpedo division] personnel begin their combat work. This sub-unit is one of the best on the ship. Last month the men under Captain Lieutenant A. Demekhin took first place in the competition, and they are holding on to it this month.

Petty Officer First Class M. Kuz'min and Senior Seaman A. Red'kov, first-class specialists, have loaded the antisubmarine mortars.

The submarine is in the focus of the salvo. The command is given—and the bombs head for the target, drawing fiery tails behind them. A torpedo strike follows.

The senior commander, who observed the performance of the crew on the patrol vessel "Druzhnyy," commended the good training and skill of the personnel. The search demonstrated the fact that the crew of the patrol ship "Druzhnyy" is prepared to perform difficult missions.

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COMBAT TRADITIONS: MARSHAL BATITSKIY INTERVIEWED

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 10, 8 Sep 80 pp 6-7

[Interview with Mar SU P. F. Batitskiy, hero of the Soviet Union, by VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA correspondent: "Colors Covered With Glory;" date and place of interview not given]

[Text] QUESTION: Comrade Marshal of the Soviet Union, please tell us about the history of the military unit (chast') battle colors.

ANSWER: Let's turn to Chapter 5 of the Constitution of the USSR and read the words that stir me to the depths of my soul, words that have the ring of a strict maternal order from the motherland:

"The Armed Forces of the USSR have been established and universal military service instituted to defend the gains of socialism, the peaceful labors of the Soviet people and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state.

"The duty of the Armed Forces of the USSR to the people is to provide a reliable defense of the socialist motherland and to be in a constant state of combat readiness guaranteeing that any aggressor is instantly repulsed."

The red battle colors are in fact a symbol of our Armed Forces, equally dear to both the veteran grown gray in battle and the young man only now joining the soldiering family. It embodies the honor and glory our armed forces have won in the heat of unprecedented battles as well as in the performance of their strenuous everyday military duties.

"The battle colors of a military unit of the Armed Forces of the USSR," reads the statute governing them approved by ukase of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, "are a symbol of military honor, valor and glory and a reminder to each member of the Armed Forces of the USSR of his sacred duty to serve the Soviet motherland devotedly, to defend it skillfully and courageously and to fight the enemy for every inch of his native soil without sparing his blood or his very life."

The history of our military colors is inseparably connected with the revolutionary struggle of the working class, and of all working people, under the leadership of the Communist Party for freedom from the oppression of the exploiters. The red flags flew over the meetings and the May Day celebrations. They hoisted them over the barricades; the Red Guards fought as they waved overhead. The Red Army's first regiments were launched on their military careers under the red flag as well.

In 1918 the VTsIK [All-Russian Central Executive Committee] issued a decree instituting the Honorary Revolutionary Red Colors. It was presented in the name of the VTsIK to the best military units (chast'). Emblazoned across this crimson banner was the inscription sewn in gold, "For Valor in Battle."

And then in 1926 a decree of the Central Executive Committee and Council of People's Commissars introduced the "Statute on the Revolutionary Red Colors of Units of the Workers' and Peasants' Red Army." It declared that the revolutionary red colors express the internal unity and cohesion of the fighting men in the given unit, united by a continuous readiness to rise at the first call of the workers' and peasants' government in defense of the gains of the revolution and the interests of the working people. The colors stay with the unit and accompany it on all military campaigns and in all peacetime activities.

It was under their red colors that the fighting men of the new Red Army, inspired by the Communist Party, totally destroyed the herds of foreign interventionists and white guards during the years of civil war. The troops and commanders of the First Cavalry Army and the legendary Chapayev, Pershok, Iron and many other divisions bore their colors through the fire of battle worthily and with honor and inscribed their brilliant pages in the heroic annals of our Armed Forces.

VTsIK presented the first red battle colors to regiments distinguishing themselves in the fighting at Tsaritsyn. The troops and commanders of these units enthusiastically assured the party central committee and the Soviet Government that they were prepared to die for the workers' cause and boldly and decisively to destroy all enemies of the October Revolution.

Vladimir Il'ich Lenin greeted these heroes with a telegram, in which he declared:

"Hold your red colors high; bear them forward fearlessly; root out the counter-revolution of landlords, generals and kulaks mercilessly and show the entire world that socialist Russia is invincible."

As everyone knows, the defenders of the land of soviets successfully executed this order from the great leader, and continue with honor and distinction to do so today.

QUESTION: You went through the entire Great Patriotic War, and you saw how without sparing their very lives front-line troops would defend their colors in battle for the motherland. Please tell us about this.

ANSWER: I will say first of all that the red of the colors reminded us of the blood which had been shed by the heroes of the revolution, and this mobilized us in the effort to destroy the fascists.

I cannot fail to bring up here an incident Comrade L. I. Brezhnev wrote about in his book "Malaya zemlya" which has stirred me to the bottom of my soul.

'The men at Malaya zemlya were presented with a good gift in honor of 1 May 1943. When day broke the people exclaimed and smiled with joy. Troops had raised red colors at several points over the brigade's positions overnight....

"I recall what a tremendous impression the appearance on the screen of the red flag in the film 'The Battleship "Potemkin"' made back during the days of black and white films. But here on Malaya zemlya, pitted by bombs and shells, strewn with fragments, smoke-covered, blood-drenched, surrounded by the enemy, the colors which had been raised had a literally stunning effect. A roar of delighted, enthusiastic voices rolled out over that torn and tormented land. The people there felt something very dear to each one of them personally."

Just as could any front-line veteran, I can clearly recall what an enormous surge of moral force ran through our soldiers, NCOs and officers at the sight of the colors in their battle formations.

I was in command of the 73d Rifle Corps in the fall of 1943. We were forcing the Dnieper under difficult circumstances. The 254th Red Banner Cherkasskaya, Order of Lenin and of Suvorov, Kutuzov and Bogdan Khmel'nitskiy Rifle Division, which had to do it twice, especially distinguished itself in this operation. The fascists were bombing our crossings continuously. An avalanche of fire was pouring down on every boat and every raft. The enemy was continuously counterattacking our bridgeheads, the little patches of land we were holding on the right bank of the river, trying at whatever cost to throw our fearless men back into the water. But it was all in vain. Shielded by their battle colors, the Soviet troops not only held their ground, but were able to launch a rapid forward advance as well.

Soviet troops always selflessly and courageously defended their colors. I will mention only one example.

The colors of the 629th Rifle Regiment are preserved in the Central Museum of the Armed Forces of the USSR. Their history is truly amazing.

The regiment fought the long fiery way from the town of Belyy, now in Kalininakaya Oblast, to Magdeburg on the Elbe. Its colors received 126 shell-fragment and bullet holes during this advance. Regimental personnel had more than once selflessly to defend their sacred colors in the face of whatever danger arose. And that's the way it was in the fighting at Vitebsk in February of 1944. They had to fight within an encirclement at that time. The fascists were directing their main attack toward the unit headquarters. There then began heavy hand-to-hand fighting. At an especially critical point, the regimental commander, Col A. K. Kortunov, ordered the colors unfurled and gave his color-bearer the command: "Follow me!"

Then leading a platoon of submachine gunners, the fearless officer threw himself into a counterattack. Color-bearer Morozov fell with a bullet wound, but Pvt Berestov then took up the colors. The fascists fought furiously for the red flag. But each time they were beaten back with well-aimed fire and grenades and sometimes even with knives and butts. Our valiant troops finally broke out to rejoin their comrades.

Following a brief lull, and before furling the colors, Col Kortunov kissed the bullet-pierced red cloth and declared: "The colors are a fortress you never surrender!"

Never dropping them, never selling them, we bore our battle colors wherever the course of the war took us and succeeded in destroying fascism. The Soviet people will recall the victors' colors flying proudly at the victory parade, and then how to the roll of drums 200 Hitlerite battle flags were flung at the foot of the mausoleum of Vladimir il'ich Lenin. Shamed in campaigns of criminal plunder, these flags fell like so many colored rags to the stones of Red Square as conclusive testimony

to the ignominious failure of Hitler's adventure. Those today considering any armed encroachments upon the sacred soil of the land of Soviets should always recall this final act.

QUESTION: In your view, comrade marshal of the Soviet Union, how should today's successors of those front-line soldiers continue this glorious tradition of loyalty to their unit battle colors?

ANSWER: Unit battle colors embody the good reputation the troops have won in both battle and the days of their peacetime training. Under their regimental colors personnel take their oath and see off comrades who have completed their required service time. This sacred military object flies over a formation during march-pasts in parades and marching drill reviews, as well as in the course of special holiday celebrations, a reminder to each soldier of the need to discharge his service to the socialist fatherland in exemplary fashion and to preserve strictly and add to these glorious military traditions.

"A revolutionary military romanticism should surround the regimental colors," Mikhail Ivanovich Kalinin used to say, "so each Red Army man will strictly render it its due respect in developing a detailed knowledge of all the military campaigns and actions in which the regiment has participated under these colors."

"He who is loyal to the colors will be exemplary in service"--so goes the popular wisdom. No matter where a fighting man is, no matter under what difficult circumstances he finds himself, he is always obligated to remain loyal to his battle colors and add his own contribution to the good name already won by his regiment's heroic comrades.

The battle colors of a military unit are always under guard; their post is designated No. 1, that is, it's the most important and the most honored.

The best soldiers are assigned the guard duty at this post, those having achieved "outstanding" ratings in their combat and political training and established themselves as leaders in socialist competition. All who have ever been granted this great honor long remember it. Here is an account of the stirring feelings the future space pioneer Yu. A. Gagarin experienced at Post No. 1.

"I recall the first occasion I had to stand guard at the unit colors, that symbol of military honor, valor and glory.... What a great honor it is, I thought, to be a Soviet fighting man standing a steadfast guard over the motherland and to be a man everybody loves and respects and whom many peoples refer to as nothing other than their liberator.... I wanted very much for them to give me a photo in which I would appear with the unfurled colors. I even imagined how delighted my parents would be with this photo...."

I don't need to add here how true these sincerely-felt thoughts coming from the bottom of the soul and heart ring with all of us, how close and understandable they are to all who have served or who are today serving in the ranks of the Soviet Armed Forces.

To be given such an inspiring award as the presentation of his own photograph in which he appears with the unfurled battle colors of his military unit is a great honor for a soldier or NCO. It can be earned only through selfless, strenuous and intensive military labors in the course of combat and political training, mature and skilled discharge of his responsibilities in performing his military duties and during tactical training exercises, training flights and naval cruises and then after

fulfillment ahead of schedule of the obligations he has assumed in socialist competition under the slogan "Remain strictly obedient to Lenin's behests; improve your state of combat and political training; increase vigilance; always be in readiness to stand in defense of the motherland and the great achievements of socialism."

I would like to believe that our young fighting men are sparing neither their strength nor their energies in striving to be presented with this award, of which their parents as well as their peers will without doubt be proud.

It would come as an especially great honor now, when our country, the entire Soviet people, is approaching 26th Congress of the CPSU, which has been called to lay down the strategy and tactics to be followed in the drive of the coming phase of the building of communism. The fact is that, as Comrade Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev pointed out at the June plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, preparations for the congress act as a powerful lever in raising the level of political and labor activity of both communists and nonparty people.

QUESTION: Comrade Marshal of the Soviet Union, you have been serving in our heroic Armed Forces for 36 years now, so you don't know the soldier's life closely on the basis of hearsay. What would you wish our young defenders of the socialist fatherland?

ANSWER: To those now standing their vigilant watch on land, in the air and at sea, guarding the peaceful labors of the land of Soviets and of the entire socialist commonwealth, and to those who are only now preparing to join the ranks of a military formation, who are still undergoing their initial military training and learning technical specialties in DOSAAF training organizations, to these I would like to say only one thing: always be true to the colors given their luster by previous generations in combat under the leadership of the Communist Party.

Loyalty to the battle colors of one's military unit has many aspects, and, I would like to emphasize, it's an active concept. It manifests itself not simply in words, but in concrete, everyday deeds as well. So we always have to remember the full unity of word and deed. A military man can never, must never, in any situation ignore the dictates of his conscience; he will always act in accordance with his oath and with the requirements imposed by the regulations. Strive, my young friends, not only for personal success, but help your comrades out as well. For the fact is that the efforts of each soldier comprise the combat readiness of a subunit, a unit etc. Remember the soldier's honor; it must always remain unblemished.

I would like to remind the young of the words of Sergey Lukonin, the hero of K. Simonov's play, "A Boy From Our Town": "When the colors go by in a parade, all red, scorched, shot through with bullets, the tears rise in my throat. At times like that I feel like I could follow those flags to the ends of the earth without rest."

I have in conclusion one more wish for the heirs to the glory of their fathers' generation, for those young people now preparing for service in the armed forces: "Always be true to the great cause of Lenin and the Communist Party! Hold high the battle colors of the Soviet Armed Forces covered with the glory of victories!"

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NATO: SOVIET COMMENTS ON NEW WEAPONRY

Moscow VOYENNYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 10, Oct 80 signed to press 8 Sep 80 p 30

[Article by V. Makarevskiy, candidate of military sciences, docent, based on material from the foreign press: "NATO Bosses Are Developing and Manufacturing Qualitatively New Types of Weapons Under the Hypocritical Designation of 'Conventional,' Imperialism Unmasked"]

[Text] Everybody knows what enormous destructive power is concealed in the nuclear stockpiles which have been created on this Earth and are now filling the arsenals of the US and the NATO countries to overflowing. But their huge stockpiles of conventional weapons pose no less of a danger. The US alone each year produces weapons to the tune of 36-42 billion dollars, and some 50 billion if development costs are included. The other NATO countries have not lagged far behind the United States in this regard.

Qualitative advances in the development of conventional weapons, which in a number of instances approach low-yield nuclear weapons in their operational effectiveness, is a cause for alarm.

The effectiveness of conventional weapons has increased in consequence of advances achieved with respect to their primary parameters: increases in killing and destroying power, range and accuracy in target destruction and in area of killing zone.

The application of control systems, in particular, have made possible the achievement of hitherto unequalled accuracy. Where formerly hundreds of rounds of conventional ammunition were required to destroy a target, a few guided missiles, projectiles or bombs are now sufficient.

Guided rounds developed in the US for its 127mm, 155mm and 203mm guns, for example, are capable of destroying moving targets at ranges of up to 12 km, their deviation from the point of laser-beam illumination not exceeding 1 meter. The Maverick guided aerial bombs also offer this great killing and destroying effect.

These systems have a fairly broad range of employment: from antitank and surface-to-air systems to cruise missiles. It was no idle comment that one of the Pentagon's scientific directors was making when he declared that "the appearance of precision-guided projectiles has now brought military technology to the threshold of a real revolution in the area of conventional weaponry."

Destructive effect is being enhanced by charging projectiles with more powerful explosives, increasing the charge ratio of the casings of the projectiles, bombs and other ammunition filled with these explosives and by the use of liquid and jellied explosives. The American BLU-82 heavy aerial bomb may serve as an example of this type of weapon. It is charged with new jellied explosives composed of ammonium nitrate, aluminum powder and a binding agent. The charge is detonated at low altitude from two sides simultaneously. As has been reported in the foreign press, the shock wave which is then generated is capable of causing heavy destruction within a radius of up to 500 m, which is fully comparable with the effects of a low-yield nuclear explosion.

Possessing no less powerful a destructive effect, according to foreign specialists, is the volumetric-blast ammunition employing special gas-air mixtures--methylacetylene, propadiene and propane plus butane, ethylene, and vapors of different types of liquid fuel. The American CBU-55 cluster bomb, for example, which is manufactured in the form of the conventional 500lb (225kg) bomb, contains about 100kg of liquid-fuel mixture in 3 canisters. An aerosol cloud 15m in diameter and 2-3m thick is formed when a canister hits the earth. After a brief (fractions of a second) delay, during which time the explosive mixes with the air, it is detonated at several points. A powerful shock wave is thereby generated with an overpressure of more than 20 kg/cm² and destroying even strong reinforced-concrete structures.

Cores for armor-piercing shells made of metallic uranium (uranium-238, obtained, among other sources, from nuclear power plant waste) are another "novelty." This is cheaper than the tungsten carbide now being used and more operationally reliable and effective since, in addition to generating a greater shock effect, it also produces a certain radiation effect upon the crew of the target of destruction. Approximately 1 million of these projectiles have already been ordered in the US.

The battlefield target-destruction area is being sharply increased through the application of cluster munitions by aviation, volley fire systems and artillery pieces. These munitions pose a special threat to openly deployed targets, personnel, artillery or light armored equipment. Their zone of destruction is now calculated in terms of square kilometers, not, as formerly, in hectares.

The 192,000 destructive elements of the American CBU-24 cluster bomb, for example, sow death over an area of 0.3 km². The F-4 Phantom fighter-bomber carries 11 canisters "working" about 1.5 km². The B-52 bomber with 66 cluster bombs can scatter deadly fragments over an enormous area--some 8 km².

To the number of cluster munitions intended for the destruction of tanks should be added the warhead the US has developed for the Lance missile, which contains 15 destructive elements in a conventional hollow charge with an infrared guidance device. According to its designers' calculations, a single Lance missile could destroy as many as 15 tanks simultaneously at a range of about 100km if it strikes them in a mass. According to foreign press reports, the improved Lance-2 version of this missile has now been tested with 10 secondary charges and a destructive range of up to 150km.

Multiple rocket launching systems offer high rates of fire: each can launch several dozen projectiles within only a few seconds, which provides massed fire over a large area. They can be fired by battery as well as by entire battalions, which increases

the area of destruction still more and, to a certain extent, makes them the equivalent of low-yield nuclear weapons.

Incendiary weapons have a wide range of application. Israel's use of these weapons in 1967 accounted for 75 per cent of the Arab casualties; 40 per cent of the air munitions the US expended in Vietnam during the last years of the war were also incendiary bombs.

Let us take note of the fact that so-called "conventional" weapons can now be delivered the same distances that nuclear weapons can, what with the capability of operational tactical missiles to be armed with both nuclear and conventional warheads.

The most up-to-date military weapons, including those of this enormous destructive force, are being developed and manufactured primarily in the US, both for use by its own armed forces and for delivery to other countries. One of the most sophisticated fighter aircraft, the F-14A with its Phoenix missiles, for example, turned up in the Shah's Iran; the Lance missile system is now to be found in the FRG, Great Britain, Italy and other countries; Israel has employed napalm weapons in combat extensively.

In addition to the US, a number of similar weapon types are being developed and are now in the inventories of the FRG (the LARS artillery rocket launcher system), France (the AR-14 rocket with its cluster warhead containing 7300 secondary ball charges) and other countries.

As generalized types, conventional weapons of enhanced destructive power are defined as fire weapons of destruction--shells, bombs, mines, torpedoes, rockets and missiles and flame throwers--charged with explosives of enhanced power or a special mixture which, in combination with special weapon design and increased effective range, area and accuracy, provide an enhanced lethality and destructive effect making them rough equivalents of low-yield nuclear weapons.

As has already been pointed out, reliance on the "superweapon" has led to the appearance over the past 10-15 years in the US and other leading Western countries of weapon systems of such destructive power that in lethality and destructive effect they are fully comparable to nuclear weapons. These weapons are already in world-wide use; the threat of their employment has become real and is a cause of justified concern on the part of those forces striving for the relaxation of international tensions.

At the 1978 special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament, the Soviet delegation raised for consideration by this body the issue of measures to be taken to halt the development of new types of conventional weapons of enhanced destructive power. It was decided to convene a UN conference to deal with the matter of prohibiting or limiting the employment of inhumane types of conventional weapons, including incendiary weapons, fuel-air explosive mixtures, land mines, booby traps and cluster warheads releasing large number of fragments or secondary ball charges. But at the UN conference convened in September 1979 the discussion centered primarily around incendiary weapons, including napalm; land mines and booby traps and certain types of small arms and non-X-ray detectable fragments and munitions (plastics, for example). Nevertheless, the conference, which lasted about 3 weeks, proved unable to make concrete decisions in connection with even this limited number. The position adopted by the delegations of certain imperialist countries, primarily the US, but China as well, prevented it.

Failure to solve this problem could in the meantime lead to a situation in which the development and introduction of systems of increasing destructiveness will assume a mass-scale character which cannot be controlled. Such a turn of events is fraught with serious danger for all mankind.

Let us recall Vietnam. It was precisely there that the American militarists in their attempt to put down the struggle of that heroic people for their freedom and independence graphically demonstrated the full barbarity and inhumanity of these new weapons. But the courageous Vietnamese fighters were able to demonstrate something else in practice: that even in the face of the use of superpowerful weapons, a skilled, well-trained fighting man can not only successfully resist an enemy, but triumph over him as well.

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